

Experience Sharing Session on Good Data Governance by Privacy-Friendly Awardees 2023

Speaker

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Introduction

- No single measure can effectively ensure personal data protection
- In order to safeguard personal data security, the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) has adopted the approach of multiple layers of defense



Privacy Management Programme – Organisational Commitment

- Top-down approach to foster a respectful culture for personal data privacy
- Ongoing review of the privacy management programme



Implement 16 recommendations made by the **Working Group on Review of Security Measures and Procedures for Handling the Data Collected from Respondents** to further enhance the data security measures and procedures in short, medium and long-term



Set up the **Departmental Committee on Data Security of Statistical Systems (DCDSSS)** to direct the departmental data security policies and oversee the ongoing development and implementation of recommendations on data security



Privacy Management Programme – Departmental Committee on Data Security of Statistical Systems (DCDSSS)

- Chaired by the Deputy Commissioner with 10+ members from different grades
- Regularly reviews C&SD's data security measures to formulate data security plans and comprehensive guidance in terms of



Policies and procedures



Use of technology



Promotion of staff awareness



Use of Technology

- Data Anonymisation Module (DAM)

Protect private or sensitive information by encrypting identifiers in the dataset after data collection, without affecting the overall efficiency



The identifiers will be replaced by randomly generated series of letters / numbers (hash identifiers) and securely kept in the system



The hash identifiers can be used to differentiate records in the anonymous dataset and act as keys for data matching



The personal data cannot be identifiable from the anonymous dataset and only authorised officers can retrieve the original identifiers through the system for operational needs



Use of Technology

- Online Questionnaire System (OQS)



Data encryption

- Use the Transport Layer Security (TLS) protocol to securely transmit data between clients and servers
- Store the submitted data in an encrypted form, without storage on users' computers



User authentication

- Verify user identity for each login
- Lock the user account after a number of unsuccessful login attempts



IT infrastructure

- Protect all servers by firewall
- Set up monitoring facilities to prevent unauthorised access



Housekeeping

- Housekeep by deleting the expired user accounts and survey data



Use of Technology

- Mobile Tablets for Data Collection



Data encryption and upload

- Encrypt collected data immediately and upload to central server
- Delete data from the tablets after uploading



Dual authentication

- Enable the power-on login and password-protected screen savers
- Adopt system login authentication with verification of server certificates

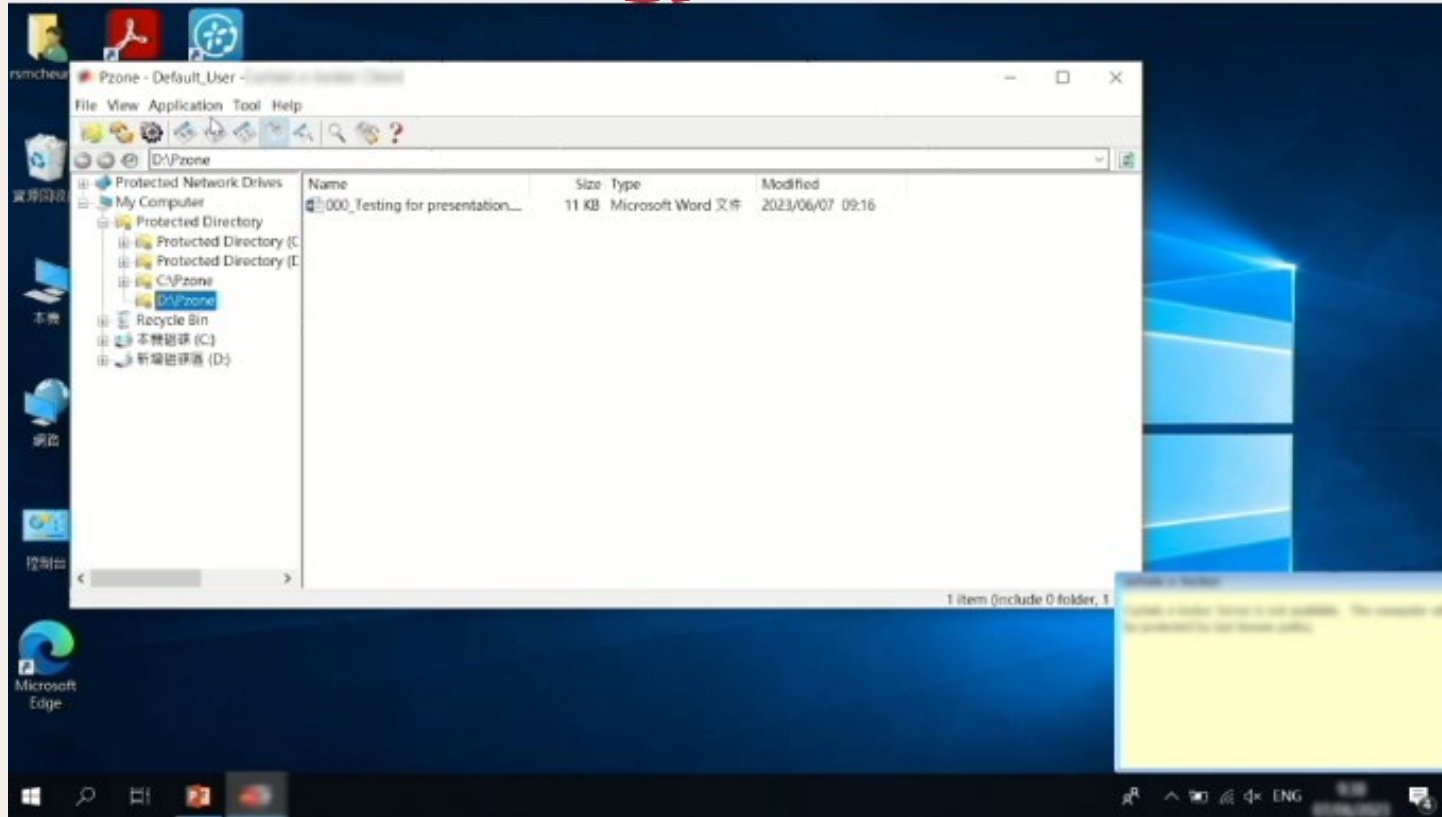


Device management to deal with suspected loss of tablet

- Use Mobile Device Management (MDM) software to manage control and track the status of tablet
- Remotely delete all data on the tablet



Use of Technology - Protected Zone



Conclusions

- Technological advancements have brought convenience and opportunities to government statistical work, but also pose challenges to personal data protection
- To establish a robust personal data privacy management system, it is essential to have stringent policies and procedures, support of technological infrastructure, and ongoing education and staff training



Thank you!

