

6 December 2022

## Cyber security focus of panel event in Orange

A meet the experts event held in Orange today will hear the latest on the cyber security threat landscape.

The event is hosted by the NSW Cyber Business Exchange.

The face-to-face session (which will also be live streamed) will include a Federal Government Minister as a keynote speaker, a panel discussion and networking opportunity.

Assistant Defence Minister Matt Thistlethwaite is the main speaker at the event to be held at Charles Sturt University's Bloomfield Campus at 2pm.

### **Orange City Councillor Jeff Whitton will be part of a 'Meet the Experts' event in Orange.**

Cr Jeff Whitton said the session would help the region explore business opportunities in the defence and artificial intelligence (AI) industries.

"Earlier this year, the Council passed a motion to setup a Working Party and a strategic plan to promote and position Orange and the Central West as a strategic sovereign partner with the Australian Defence Forces," Cr Whitton said.

"This event is certainly a step in that direction. It will bring together cyber security professionals, business and community leaders to look at what threats are on the horizon.

"The keynote address from Minister Thistlethwaite will outline the Australian Government's position on cyber security, while the panel discussion will let us hear from experts from across the cyber security industry."

The panel discussion will provide information about:

- the Australian Defence Cyber Warfare Unit
- opportunities for Indigenous and other diverse cohorts to work in the cyber security profession
- academic pathways and AI in cyber security
- disability employment opportunities in cyber security
- how regional businesses are meeting cyber security compliance
- recruitment challenges in cyber security

Speakers include:

**The Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP**

Assistant Minister for Defence  
Assistant Minister for Veterans' Affairs  
Assistant Minister for the Republic

**Councillor Jeff Whitton FAICD, CDPSE, ANSC**

Ambassador, NSW Cyber Hub  
Committee Member, Australian Information Security Association (NSW Branch)  
Member of Infrastructure Committee to the Board of Trustees, Western Sydney University  
Member of the Advisory Board for the School of Computing, Macquarie University

**Ret. Major General Dr Marcus Thompson AM**

Inaugural Head of Information Warfare for the Australian Defence Force  
Chairman of the Board, Penten  
Chairman of the Board, Paraflare

**Yawun Mundine**

Chief Executive Officer and Founding Director of First Nations Cyber Security Company,  
Yirigaa

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