

Essential Eight and ISO 27001 in 18 Months

A 220-user professional services firm needed to win larger contracts and satisfy client audit demands by achieving Essential Eight Maturity Level 2 and ISO 27001 certification within 18 months. We ran a joint gap assessment, built a remediation roadmap, implemented technical controls and policies, and guided them through certification.

KEY RESULTS

18 months to ISO 27001 certification

Essential Eight ML2 achieved across all eight mitigations

0 major non-conformities at certification audit

100% staff completed security awareness training

BEFORE

- No formal information security management system (ISMS) or documented policies
- Client tenders increasingly asked for ISO 27001 and Essential Eight evidence
- Mixed endpoint estate with local admin accounts, inconsistent patching and no application control
- Backups were untested and stored on the same network as production data

AFTER

- 18 months - to ISO 27001 certification
- Essential Eight ML2 - achieved across all eight mitigations
- 0 - major non-conformities at certification audit
- Conducted an Essential Eight gap assessment and ISO 27001 scoping workshop across all offices

"We went from no security framework to ISO 27001 certified and Essential Eight compliant in under two years. The roadmap made it manageable, and we have already won tenders we could not have qualified for before."

- Managing Director, professional services firm