



CYBIT

MICROSOFT
UNLOCKED:
WHAT'S AVAILABLE
NOW AND WHAT
COMES NEXT.

Microsoft Newsletter
June Edition



Microsoft
Solutions Partner



MICROSOFT NEWSLETTER

– JUNE 2026

Welcome to the June edition of Cybit's Microsoft Newsletter, our bi-monthly look at the Microsoft developments most likely to matter to organisations like yours.

Two months on from the April edition, the focus has shifted. The headline items we covered then are no longer just roadmap announcements. Microsoft 365 E7, Agent 365, and the 2026 release wave for Dynamics 365 and Power Platform are now generally available, and starting to land in customer environments. Microsoft Fabric's FabCon commitments from March are also moving from preview to GA in steady waves.

The reason that matters is the conversation customers we are having has changed accordingly. It is no longer mainly about whether to be interested in these capabilities. It is increasingly about whether the environment, licensing position, governance posture, and user readiness are in the right place to actually use them well.

This edition is shaped around that shift. Some of what is in here is genuinely new, particularly Microsoft Copilot Cowork, which is the most credible example yet of AI moving from a chat assistant to an execution layer. There are also a few topics that have become more pressing, including the structural hardware shortage affecting laptop and server pricing, the Microsoft 365 Business Premium add-on bundles that most customers have not yet looked at properly, and the **October lifecycle deadlines which are now five months away rather than eleven.**

In this edition, we'll cover:

- ✓ Microsoft 365 E7 and Agent 365 now generally available, plus the Business Premium add-on bundles worth knowing about.
- ✓ Microsoft Copilot Cowork, what it is, why it matters, and the data sovereignty question for UK organisations.
- ✓ The latest in Microsoft security, including Agent 365 Runtime Protection and the Entra Cloud Sync transition.
- ✓ Where Microsoft Fabric is heading after FabCon, and what it means for a more governed data estate.
- ✓ The structural hardware shortage and why Windows 365 and Azure Virtual Desktop are becoming more relevant.
- ✓ Cybit Update & News

MODERN WORKPLACE

Microsoft 365 E7 and Agent 365: Now available

In the April edition, we covered Microsoft 365 E7 and Agent 365 as the headline announcements of the year so far. Both went generally available on the 1st May 2026, with **Microsoft 365 E7 priced at £82 per user per month**, and **Agent 365 available as a £12 per user per month** standalone add-on for organisations not ready to move to the full suite.

A few weeks in, the early picture is more nuanced than the launch material suggests. The customers asking us about E7 are not generally net-new prospects deciding between E3 and E7. They are existing E5 customers reviewing what changes if they consolidate Copilot, Entra Suite, and Agent 365 under a single bundle. For that audience, E7 simplifies the commercial position, removes some bundling friction, and aligns the security and governance story with the AI story. That is a sensible move and worth modelling.

The customers it does not naturally suit are those who are still maturing their data classification, access controls, or basic Microsoft 365 hygiene. E7 does not solve those problems and would simply lock in a higher unit cost on top of unfinished foundations. We made that point in April and it has only become more relevant now that customers can actually buy it.

Agent 365 as a standalone is a more interesting conversation for many of our customers. It gives organisations a route to govern agents without committing to the full E7 jump. For customers piloting Copilot Studio, building line-of-business agents, or thinking about how agents will sit alongside human users in the same workflows, that route is worth modelling carefully against the longer-term roadmap. If you would like to walk through where E7 or Agent 365 fits in your environment, including the genuine versus the marketing-led case, please speak to your Cybit contact.

WHAT'S NEW IN COPILOT

Outside of the suite-level news, Microsoft has continued to ship a steady stream of Copilot capability updates. A few are worth pulling out:

Researcher – can now produce its output as a PowerPoint deck, a PDF, an infographic, or an audio overview, in a single click. That sounds like a formatting tweak, though it is more useful than it appears. Most knowledge work involves taking the same content and reshaping it for different audiences. Removing the manual reformatting step is the kind of small change that quietly improves daily productivity once people get used to it.

Edit with Copilot in Excel – (previously called Agent Mode) is now available to all licensed users. It allows users to ask Copilot to build and modify workbooks, including tables, charts, PivotTables, and formulas, through natural-language prompts. For finance, operations, and analyst





teams that spend significant time building or maintaining spreadsheets, this is one of the better examples of Copilot moving from drafting assistant to genuine workflow support.

Legal Agent in Word – is a new addition aimed at contract review. It can analyse a document, suggest clause-level changes, and apply them as tracked changes for human review. This is squarely a legal team capability rather than a general user one, though it is worth noting because it points to where Copilot is heading: specialist agents that sit inside the apps people already use, rather than separate AI tools that need to be learnt separately.

Copilot Chat naming and access changes – took effect on the 16th May 2026. Microsoft has renamed the experience so licensed users see “M365 Copilot (Premium)” and unlicensed users see “Copilot Chat (Basic)”. For organisations of over 2,000 users, Basic Copilot has been removed from Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and OneNote, leaving Basic available only in the Microsoft 365 Copilot app and Outlook. Smaller organisations are not affected by the access change but will still see the new naming. If your users have spotted differences in their Copilot experience in recent weeks, this is why.

The Business Premium story most customers haven’t looked at

A topic that has not had enough attention in previous editions is the set of Microsoft 365 Business Premium add-ons that Microsoft introduced in September 2025, and which most customers have not yet looked at properly.

For context, Microsoft 365 Business Premium is the most popular licence for organisations under 300 users. It includes Defender for Business, Intune, and a baseline of security and compliance capability. What it does not include is the deeper threat protection and data security tools that have historically only been available through Microsoft 365 E5.

To bridge that gap without forcing customers into an E5 jump, Microsoft now offers three add-ons to Business Premium:

- ✓ **Microsoft Defender Suite for Business Premium** at approximately £10 per user per month. This bundles Defender for Endpoint Plan 2, Defender for Office 365 Plan 2, Defender for Identity, Defender for Cloud Apps, and Entra ID P2.
- ✓ **Microsoft Purview Suite for Business Premium** at approximately £10 per user per month. This bundles Information Protection, Data Loss Prevention, eDiscovery (Premium), Insider Risk Management, Audit (Premium), Communication Compliance, and Compliance Manager.
- ✓ **Microsoft Defender and Purview Suites combined** at approximately £15 per user per month. This is the same content as the two suites above, sold as a single add-on at a saving.

Microsoft is also running a 50% off promotion on the Purview Suite for Business Premium customers who have Microsoft 365 Copilot or Copilot Business, available through to the 1st July 2026.

The reason this matters is that many Business Premium customers fit one of two profiles. Either they have outgrown the default Business Premium security capability but cannot justify the cost of E5, or they have already started adding individual security and compliance components and are now paying more in total than the bundle would cost. Both groups stand to benefit from a proper licensing review.

This is also relevant in the wider context of the Microsoft 365 price changes confirmed back in February, which take effect from the 1st July 2026. Business Basic and Business Standard pricing rises by approximately 15 percent on new and renewing subscriptions, which is another reason to review the licensing position now rather than at renewal.

IF YOU ONLY DO ONE THING THIS MONTH:

ask whether your Business Premium estate has the right add-on configuration in place, or whether you are paying separately for capability that is now available as a more cost-effective bundle. Cybit's licensing optimisation review covers exactly this question, **reach out to the Cybit sales team for more information.**

AI SPOTLIGHT: MICROSOFT COPILOT COWORK

The most interesting AI announcement of the last two months has been Microsoft Copilot Cowork, which Microsoft introduced on the 9th March 2026 as the centrepiece of Wave 3 of Microsoft 365 Copilot. It moved into Research Preview that same day and into broader Frontier preview on the 30th March. It is not yet generally available and Microsoft has not committed to a GA date.

What it is

Cowork is a multi-step agent that takes a single user prompt and plans, executes, and delivers an outcome that spans multiple Microsoft 365 apps. Microsoft's demonstration showed Cowork being asked to prepare for a client review, then independently going through recent emails, compiling notes from meetings, building a one-page Word brief, generating a supporting Excel summary, and adding the meeting prep to the user's calendar. It works in the background and surfaces checkpoints for the user to approve before any changes are actually applied.

The reason this is worth paying attention to is that it is the most credible example yet of **AI moving from being a chat assistant to being an execution layer**. Previous Copilot capabilities have largely sat in the "ask a question, get an answer" pattern. Cowork is closer in concept to delegating a small task to a junior colleague: describe the outcome, let it run, review what comes back.

For organisations that have spent the last eighteen months wondering where the transformational value of AI was actually going to come from, Cowork is one of the first features where the answer feels plausible. It will not be transformational on day one, and it will not be transformational for every use case, but the pattern is the right one.





The Anthropic and Claude piece

There is an important technical detail that needs to be understood before Cowork is enabled in any tenant. Cowork is built on Anthropic's Claude technology, specifically Claude Opus 4.7. This is part of Microsoft's wider multi-model strategy, which since January 2026 has formally included Anthropic as a Microsoft subprocessor.

What that means in practice is that when a user runs a Cowork task, the M365 data being processed (emails, files, calendar items, Teams content) stays within Microsoft's environment under Microsoft's enterprise data protection terms. The actual AI inference, the bit where Claude reads the context and decides what to do, happens on Anthropic's infrastructure in the United States.

The data sovereignty question

This is where UK organisations need to think carefully. **Anthropic models are explicitly excluded from the Microsoft EU Data Boundary**, and Microsoft has set the Anthropic toggle to off by default for tenants in the UK, EU, and EFTA. To use Cowork, or any other Claude-powered Copilot feature, a Global Admin or AI Admin must opt in via the Microsoft 365 admin centre under Copilot > Settings > Data access > AI providers operating as Microsoft subprocessors.

My honest view is that this is not a reason to dismiss Cowork completely. Anthropic is contractually bound under Microsoft's Product Terms and Data Protection Addendum, and your data is not used to train AI models. The compliance posture is still robust by any reasonable standard. However, it is something you need to think about as **the moment the toggle is on, your AI processing scope extends outside the EU**, and that has practical implications:

- ✓ Your Records of Processing Activities (ROPA) need updating to reflect the new extra-EU subprocessor.
- ✓ A Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) is sensible if Cowork will touch personal data or special-category data.
- ✓ Sector-specific obligations, particularly in healthcare, financial services, and public sector, may need separate review.
- ✓ Contractual clauses you have signed with your own customers may need checking, particularly anywhere you have committed to EU data residency.

Where this leaves us

Cowork is genuinely exciting, and we are tracking it closely. For customers wanting to pilot it, our recommendation is to speak with us first to understand the potential risk to your business. Once confirmed, start small, document the rationale for enabling Anthropic, pilot with a defined user group through Entra security groups rather than tenant-wide, and pair the rollout with sensible Purview policies, DLP coverage, and a clear acceptable-use position for users.

It is also worth saying that the GA date is not committed. The capability is unlikely to land in mainstream Frontier availability for several months, which gives organisations time to make the readiness decisions.

Copilot Notebooks

Copilot Notebooks is worth keeping an eye on. Users can pull together files, notes, chats, pages and links into a single notebook, then ask Copilot questions grounded only in that content. For bid responses, project work, account reviews and meeting prep, that could save real time.

Recent updates have made it more useful. SharePoint content can now be referenced directly, notebooks can be shared with Microsoft 365 Groups, and there are new outputs like mind maps and audio overviews. It needs a Microsoft 365 Copilot licence plus an active SharePoint or OneDrive licence.

As always, the value depends on the quality of the content going in and the security around it. The upside is it removes some of the friction that central SharePoint and OneDrive governance can introduce, by letting users build a scoped workspace around a specific topic without breaking the governance model underneath.

SECURITY

In the April edition we made the case that secure AI was going to depend on Microsoft Entra, Microsoft Defender, and Microsoft Purview working together rather than as separate products. The releases over the past two months have continued in that direction, with four updates worth pulling out.

Agent 365 Runtime Protection

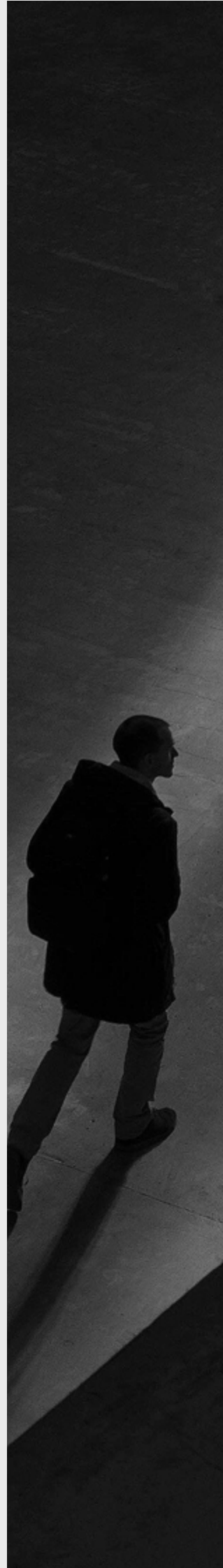
Microsoft announced Agent 365 Runtime Protection in public preview on the 30th April 2026. It is the natural sequel to the Agent 365 control-plane story we covered in April. Where Agent 365 itself provides inventory, governance, and policy controls for AI agents, Runtime Protection focuses on monitoring agents at the point of execution.

In practical terms, it watches agent behaviour in real time, applies behavioural baselines to spot unusual activity, and can revoke agent permissions if an agent appears to be acting in a way that suggests compromise, misconfiguration, or excessive scope. It integrates with Microsoft Entra ID to enforce least-privilege policies dynamically.

The reason this is interesting is that it begins to answer the question we flagged in the April edition: as agents proliferate, how do you keep them in scope without falling back on either blocking everything or trusting everything? Runtime Protection is not the full answer, but it is a credible first version. My honest view is that any organisation seriously deploying agents in 2026 should expect this kind of runtime monitoring to become standard within a year, in the same way that endpoint detection and response became standard for devices.

Security Copilot now included in Microsoft 365 E5 & E7

Another meaningful change is that Microsoft Security Copilot is now included as part of Microsoft 365 E5 and Microsoft 365 E7, rather than





being a separately-priced add-on. For organisations on E5 that have been weighing up whether to invest in Security Copilot, that decision has effectively been made for them.

This is worth flagging because most customers have not yet realised it has changed. The practical implication is that even small and mid-sized E5 organisations now have access to AI-led security triage, investigation support, and policy optimisation as part of their existing licensing, rather than as an additional cost line. If you are running a small security team or relying on a managed service, this is one of the more useful capability shifts of the year.

Entra Connect Sync transition to Entra Cloud Sync

Microsoft is transitioning from Entra Connect Sync, the older synchronisation tool that has run on a Windows server inside the corporate network for years, to Entra Cloud Sync, a lighter-weight cloud-managed agent.

From July 2026, customers will be notified through the Microsoft 365 Message Centre, Entra Connect Health, and email about their assigned transition window. The change itself is sensible. Cloud Sync is simpler to run, easier to scale, removes the dependency on a specific on-premises server, and aligns better with Zero Trust principles. However, every hybrid identity customer is affected, and the transition is something to plan for rather than react to.

If you are running Entra Connect Sync today (and most organisations with any AD on-premises are), the right thing to do now is to review whether your existing setup is compatible with Cloud Sync, identify any complex provisioning rules or attribute mappings that may need adjusting, and test in a non-production environment ahead of the formal transition window.

Global Secure Access on iOS and iPadOS

Microsoft has extended Global Secure Access to iOS and iPadOS, with no new agent required. The mobile client uses Microsoft Defender for Endpoint to route traffic through Global Secure Access for Microsoft 365, Entra Internet Access, and Entra Private Access. This continues the wider Zero Trust Network Access story we have been tracking, where Microsoft is steadily building out an alternative to traditional VPN for remote and mobile users.

For organisations already invested in the Entra Suite, this is a useful addition because it brings Apple mobile devices into the same identity-aware network policy that covers Windows and macOS. For organisations still running traditional VPN, it is worth checking how the Microsoft path compares to your current setup, particularly if remote access tooling is up for renewal.

DATA

Microsoft Fabric is one of the topics where the news cycle has continued steadily since we last covered it in April. FabCon and SQLCon ran together in Atlanta in March, and a number of the announcements from that event are now moving from preview into general availability.

OneLake Security (General Availability)

OneLake Security is now generally available with item, folder, table, row, and column-level role-based access control. For organisations using Fabric to centralise data, this is the capability that finally makes fine-grained access control practical at the OneLake layer rather than relying on workarounds in individual Fabric experiences.

The reason this matters is that Fabric's promise has always been to bring data into one governed foundation rather than scattered across separate analytics tools. That promise depends on being able to express the right access controls on that foundation. With OneLake Security GA, the answer to "who can see what" can now be expressed centrally and consistently rather than being repeated across each downstream consumer.

Fabric Data Agenta (Generally Available)

Fabric Data Agents are now generally available, acting as domain-specific virtual analysts that sit on top of governed data. For business users, this is the closest Fabric has come to a natural-language interface that can be trusted with real organisational data, because the data agent inherits the security model rather than bypassing it.

For organisations already invested in Fabric, this is one of the more practical capabilities to pilot. It does not require building anything new. It needs a well-modelled semantic layer, a clear domain definition, and someone responsible for tuning the agent based on user feedback.

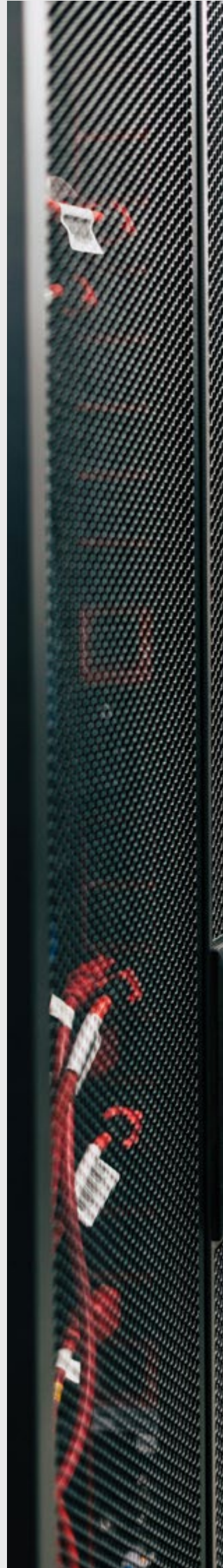
Fabric Graph, Fabric Maps & Fabric IQ

Three newer workloads landed at or after FabCon and are worth knowing about even if you are not in the market for them today.

Fabric Graph introduces a scalable graph database for modelling relationships across enterprise data. The use case is anywhere relationships matter as much as the entities themselves, including customer 360, supply chain mapping, fraud detection, and identity-led analytics. Microsoft is positioning Graph as the foundation for context-aware AI, where agents need to understand not just what entities exist but how they connect.

Fabric Maps adds geospatial intelligence as a first-class workload. For organisations with field operations, distributed assets, or location-driven analytics, this is a meaningful gap-fill. It removes the need to maintain separate geospatial tooling alongside Fabric for many use cases.

Fabric IQ is the semantic intelligence layer we first covered in the December edition. It has now moved from announcement to availability. For organisations that have struggled with inconsistent business





definitions across analytics, AI, and operational systems (different teams reporting different numbers for the same metric), Fabric IQ is Microsoft's attempt to create a shared version of reality. It is one of the more strategically significant pieces of the Fabric platform and worth understanding even before adopting.

MCP Update

An additional note worth knowing about: Microsoft has embedded support for the Model Context Protocol (MCP) across Fabric. MCP is an open standard, originally developed by Anthropic, that defines how AI models and tools exchange context with each other and with data sources.

This means AI agents (Microsoft's or otherwise) can connect to Fabric data in a more standardised way, without each connection being a bespoke integration. MCP is becoming the connective tissue between AI tools and the data they ground on, in much the same way as APIs became the connective tissue between applications a decade ago. It is worth being aware of even if it sits at a technical layer.

Azure & Microsoft Foundry

For organisations building on Azure, a number of changes are worth noting from the last couple of months.

Microsoft Foundry (Previously Azure Foundry)

Microsoft has rebranded what was Azure AI Foundry to simply Microsoft Foundry. The capability has not changed, but the positioning has. Foundry is now framed as Microsoft's AI development platform across both Azure and Microsoft 365, rather than as an Azure-only product. For customers who have been confused about whether Foundry was a developer tool, an enterprise platform, or both, the answer is now clearer: it is the build platform for anyone creating AI applications and agents on Microsoft's stack.

Agent Framework 1.0 Reaches GA

The Microsoft Agent Framework, the SDK for building multi-agent workflows in .NET and Python, reached general availability in April. For development teams thinking about agent orchestration, where multiple agents need to coordinate to complete a workflow, this is now a supported, production-ready route rather than a preview commitment.

Multi-model and New agent tools

Foundry has continued to broaden its model catalogue. Anthropic's Claude Opus 4.7 is now available alongside the latest OpenAI and Google models, as are several Microsoft-developed AI models in preview (MAI-Image-2 for image generation, MAI-Voice-1 for text-to-speech, MAI-Transcribe-1 for speech recognition). Microsoft is also building out a set of tools designed to extend what agents can do, including Computer Use (an agent that interacts with applications through their user interfaces) and Browser Automation (an agent that performs real-world browser tasks in an isolated session).

The wider point is that Microsoft is now serious about being a multi-model AI platform, rather than being tied to a single model provider. For customers thinking about where AI capability fits in their environment, that is genuinely useful, because it means workloads can be matched to the model that is most appropriate, rather than being forced into a single provider's strengths and weaknesses.

Azure Capacity Constraints in the UK

Over the past few months there have been growing reports of capacity pressure in Azure UK South. This isn't a service outage or a stability problem. It's a supply issue. Demand for compute, especially anything AI-related, has outpaced what Microsoft can currently provide in the region.

The constraints aren't evenly spread. AMD-based VM families look to be hit hardest, alongside GPU and HPC workloads. Customers are also reporting issues with AKS clusters and standard VM deployments in certain availability zones. The most common symptom is an AllocationFailed or ZonalAllocationFailed error when creating, starting or resizing a VM. Quota requests that previously sailed through are now being manually reviewed, and some are being declined outright.

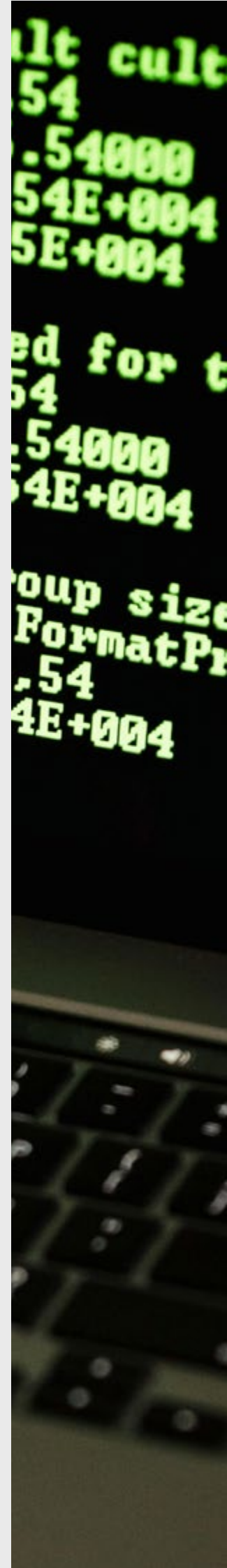
For day-to-day work this can mean delayed provisioning, failed deployments, stalled migrations, or being unable to resize an existing workload. For projects already in flight, that's disruptive. For projects still on the drawing board, it changes the conversation from deployment planning to architecture and governance planning.

It also raises a fair question. If UK South can't deliver when you need it, what's your fallback? Microsoft has been pointing some customers towards UK West, North Europe, or even Sweden. UK West has its own capacity pressure, so it isn't a guaranteed safety net. Anywhere outside the UK opens up real questions around data residency, compliance, latency, and customer commitments. None of those are quick conversations to have under pressure.

A few things worth knowing if you're planning Azure work in the region right now:

- ✓ **Quota and capacity are not the same thing.** You can have plenty of quota on paper and still fail to deploy.
- ✓ Capacity Reservations can guarantee VMs in advance, but the reservation itself will fail if capacity isn't available at the time you create it.
- ✓ Avoid autoscale rules that deallocate VMs during quiet periods. Once a VM releases its hardware, you may not get it back.
- ✓ The newest, fastest SKUs fill up first. Slightly older but widely deployed families are more likely to deploy successfully.
- ✓ Around 121MW of new datacentre capacity is due to come online across UK South and UK West later in 2026, including sites at High Wycombe, Harlow and Newport. That should ease the pressure, but the timing isn't guaranteed.

The short version: don't assume UK South will deploy on demand for capacity-sensitive workloads, and don't leave validation until the day you need to go live.





To help organisations work through the current constraints, Cybit can provide clear guidance around region strategy, capacity reservation planning, SKU selection, and fallback architecture for workloads that have to keep moving. If UK South is part of your design or your roadmap, it's worth a short conversation now rather than a difficult one later. Get in touch with your account manager or reach out to me directly and we'll help you pressure-test your plans.

THE HARDWARE QUESTION AND WHY CLOUD-DELIVERED DESKTOPS JUST GOT MORE INTERESTING

A topic we have started seeing in more customer conversations is the impact of the current hardware market on device refresh and infrastructure procurement. It is a topic that does not usually feature in a Microsoft newsletter, but it sits closely enough alongside Windows 365 and Azure Virtual Desktop that it is worth covering.

What is actually happening

The short version is that AI data centre demand has triggered a structural memory chip shortage. Samsung, SK Hynix, and Micron, the three manufacturers that produce most of the world's DRAM, have reallocated capacity towards High Bandwidth Memory for AI accelerators. The result is that conventional memory is in shorter supply, and that shortage is expected to continue through 2027 and possibly beyond.

A similar situation is emerging with CPUs. Intel and AMD have both reported lead time extensions on server processors, with some server CPUs running at six-month lead times. Dell, HP, and Lenovo have all publicly flagged input cost volatility on their recent earnings calls, with Dell stating that prices are now being adjusted continuously rather than quarterly.

From our side, we have been seeing this directly in customer projects. Hardware lead times for standard business laptops and Servers have lengthened, configuration options have narrowed at the entry-level, and quotes are valid for shorter windows than they used to be. None of this is a crisis. It is, however, a meaningful change in how procurement now needs to be planned.

Why this matters for your refresh plans

The customers most exposed are those that still have significant Windows 10 estate to refresh, those with Windows Server 2012 R2 or 2016 workloads needing migration, or those running on older laptop fleets that were meant to be refreshed in 2025 and slipped into 2026. For all three groups, the assumption that hardware would be cheap, fast, and consistent has weakened. Project plans built around a six-week procurement assumption may need to extend, and budgets built around 2024 pricing assumptions will likely need revisiting.

Where Windows 365 and Azure Virtual Desktop earn their place

This is the context where cloud-delivered desktops become more commercially interesting than they have in the past. They were always practical for specific use cases, including contractor access, B2B and guest users, and contingency for lost or failed devices. The market shift now gives them broader relevance.

The advantages worth weighing are:

- ✓ **No hardware lead time** – A Cloud PC can be provisioned the same day, which removes the dependency on the physical device supply chain entirely for relevant use cases.
- ✓ **Predictable per-user cost** – In a market where laptop pricing is rising unpredictably, a fixed monthly Cloud PC charge is easier to budget and forecast.
- ✓ **Capability for users who do not need a full local device** – Windows 365 Cloud Apps allows individual applications to be published from a Cloud PC, rather than provisioning a full desktop for every user.
- ✓ **Built-in contingency** – Windows 365 Reserve provides short-term Cloud PC access for users whose primary device has failed or been lost, which is valuable in a market where same-day laptop replacements are no longer dependable.

This does not mean every user should move to a Cloud PC. There are still scenarios where a local managed laptop is the right answer, particularly for high-performance workloads, offline-heavy users, or those in poor connectivity locations. What has changed is the threshold at which Windows 365 or AVD becomes the better commercial answer.

IF YOU ONLY DO ONE THING THIS MONTH:

Refresh your view of where Windows 365 or AVD might cover a portion of your estate, particularly for new starters, contractors, and users with simpler application needs. The economics may look different now to when you last checked.

CYBIT NEWS

Three areas where we are seeing growing demand for Cybit assessment and workshop services right now, all of which align with topics in this edition.

Microsoft 365 Copilot readiness assessments

For organisations considering Microsoft 365 Copilot, Copilot Business, or any of the agentic capabilities covered above, our Copilot readiness assessment helps confirm whether your environment is genuinely ready, including a review of data classification, permissions, SharePoint structure, and the use cases most likely to deliver value. We can also provide guided workshops using a dedicated Copilot sandbox environment, allowing teams to test real-world scenarios before committing to a wider rollout.





Microsoft Cloud FinOps reviews

With the Microsoft 365 price changes coming into effect from 1st July 2026, Azure consumption growing across most environments, and the wider shift towards AI services, FinOps has become a more important discipline than it used to be.

Our Cloud FinOps reviews look at Azure consumption patterns, identify obvious waste or overprovisioning, and provide actionable recommendations for reducing spend without compromising capability.

Microsoft 365 licensing optimisation

Following on directly from the Business Premium add-on bundles section earlier in this edition, our licensing optimisation review covers the full Microsoft 365 estate. This includes unused licences, plan mix simplification, add-on placement, and ensuring you are positioned correctly for the Copilot, security, and compliance capabilities you actually need rather than the ones you have happened to accumulate.

If any of these would be useful, **please speak to your Cybit account manager.**

Where Cybit can support

If any of the topics in this edition align with your roadmap, or raise questions around licensing, Copilot, security, AI readiness, data strategy, or Microsoft platform change, please get in touch.

Whether it is reviewing Microsoft 365 licensing, exploring the right route into Copilot, planning for the October lifecycle deadlines, considering Windows 365 or AVD in light of the hardware market, or improving governance around Power Platform and agents, Cybit can help through a mix of advisory, delivery, and managed services.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Peter McLeavery is a Solutions Architect at Cybit and one of our leading Microsoft specialists, with deep expertise across Microsoft 365, Azure, Copilot, and the broader modern workplace ecosystem.

With over a decade of hands-on experience helping organisations modernise their environments, Peter is known for translating complex technology into clear, practical solutions that deliver measurable value. He works closely with IT and business leaders to optimise their Microsoft licensing, simplify their architecture, and unlock capabilities they already own but haven't fully leveraged. Recently, he has been focused on helping customers prepare for the shift toward AI-enabled operations — including Copilot readiness, data governance, automation, and secure-by-design configuration.

Peter regularly leads Cybit's customer education sessions, webinars, and advisor workshops, where his blend of technical depth and real-world pragmatism makes him a trusted voice. Whether he's guiding organisations through Microsoft 365 E7 planning, building proof-of-concepts in Copilot Studio, or improving day-to-day workplace efficiency, Peter is passionate about helping customers turn Microsoft technology into meaningful, scalable outcomes.
Contact Peter on peter.mcleavery@cybit.com



Peter McLeavery
Solutions Architect

CYBIT

Equinox House
Silver Fox Way,
Cobalt Business Park,
Newcastle Upon Tyne,
NE27 0QJ

03308 284838
hello@cybit.com

OUR PROMISE

BUILD TOGETHER. DELIVER TOGETHER. SUCCEED TOGETHER.