European Cyber Security Month

Purchasing a new tech product or service? Here are some of the questions you need to ask yourself.

1. Can I change the default password?
   A device’s default password is incredibly easy to bypass. It’s basically an open door to your device and all your activity and data. Creating your own personal password is easy and gives you control over what information comes in and goes out.

2. Is my personal data encrypted?
   Encryption turns your information or data into a code that only authorised parties can access. Using encryption protects your personal data when stored on the device or when sent over the internet.

3. Does my device update security automatically?
   Technology moves quickly and with it, new security vulnerabilities appear. To keep pace, security updates are essential. Allowing automatic updates on your device contributes to maintaining a high level of security.

4. Do I know where my data is stored... and who can access it?
   Under GDPR companies must inform you about:
   - the data that is collected about you
   - who has access to it
   - where it is stored
   - what it is used for
   so that you can give your consent. This ensures GDPR compliance but most importantly guarantees your privacy rights.

5. Do I know what my device is revealing about me?
   If your device has a camera or a microphone it could be revealing your surroundings or allowing others to listen in to your conversations. Your device is your responsibility – take action and choose what to switch off to protect your privacy.