

Information Governance

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11 December 2017
Reference no. 17180264

Dear

Request for Information: Freedom of Information Act

Thank you for your email of 16 November, making a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. You requested the following information and the Trust is able to provide the information below in response:

Request:

In that regard, I would be grateful if you could provide me with the following information:-

- What was your total annual spend on cyber security in tax years?:
 - 2014-2015
 - 2015-2016
 - 2016-2017
 - 2017-2018
- If any, how many successful and unsuccessful cyber attacks did you have during the above years?
- For the above years, what types of attacks or attempted attacks happened
- If any attacks were successful how did this happen and how was this dealt with?
- What is your current cyber security strategy?

Response:

With respect to elements of your request the Trust is unable to comply and is not providing any information. The Trust has applied section 24 and considered section 36 and 38 of the Freedom of Information Act as the Trust utilises information and communication hardware and software in the course of its activities which must be secure and protected, however, the Trust is not providing information pertinent to your request for the following reasons. The Trust relies on section 38, health and safety and reserves the right to apply section 24, National Security and section 36, prejudice to effective conduct of public affairs, of the Freedom of Information Act in this matter. The compromise of Trust systems is a matter of

national security, which has the potential to affect the health and provision of healthcare to many people. The cost and interruption to business continuity of system disruption or prompted failure would be significant both in terms of cost of repair and the effect on productivity of the Trust given the extent of operations that are based in electronic systems. Disclosure of such information would be likely to endanger the physical or mental health of any individual, section 38(1)(a) is engaged, and would be likely to endanger the safety of any individual. It would not be in the public interest to release such information given the risk to healthcare of individuals because of the potential compromise to NHS systems.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to me and I will ensure the decision is reviewed. The Trust will consider undertaking a review if requested to do so within 40 working days of the date the response is received by the applicant, and will apply discretion if a longer period of time has passed.

Should you wish to make a complaint as a result of the outcome of such a review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision.

Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Trust for FoI Act matters.

The ICO can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF

Please contact me if there are any further queries.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Mark Underwood

Head of Information Governance