



9 May 2018

Information Rights & Compliance Team
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Our Ref: FOI 2826

Thank you for your request concerning Network Security.

Your request has been considered and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

Questions

1. **Does your organisation adhere to the Network Security guidance outlined by the National Cyber Security Centre, within its '10 Steps to Cyber Security'?**
2. **Do you ensure that security patches for critical vulnerabilities are routinely patched within 14 days, as recommended by the National Cyber Security Centre?**
3. **Have you suffered from any service outages on your network in the last two years, however small?**
4. **Did any of these outages cause a loss, reduction or impairment to your organisation's delivery of essential services?**
5. **Was the root cause of the service outage identified and confirmed – at the time or afterwards?**
6. **Is it possible that any service outages you have suffered in the last two years was caused by a cyber attack – such as ransomware, DDoS attack, or malware?**
7. **Are you aware that Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks are a significant contribution to service interruptions, outages and downtime?**

Answer

We have reviewed your request and investigated whether there is any information disclosable to you in respect to questions 1 to 7. We are unable to provide you with the information because it could be used to compromise the security of the organisation. It would make the organisation vulnerable to a crime such as hacking and this could lead to a theft of information or a denial of service to IT systems therefore we have applied S31(1)(a) – Law Enforcement (1) Information is exempt if its disclosure under this Act would or would be likely to prejudice (a) the prevention or detection of crime.

We have considered the reasons for and against disclosure below:

Reason in favour of disclosure

We acknowledge the public interest in openness and transparency and recognise that releasing this information would provide the public with assurance that we are protecting their information and our technologies.

Reason against disclosure

Disclosure of the information requested could make the Trust more vulnerable to cyber-crime as it outlines the Trust's position which could be used as a starting point to attack network infrastructure and/or information systems.

We have reached the view that on balance, the public interest is better serviced by withholding this information under the section 31(1) exemption.

Should you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please find enclosed an information sheet regarding copyright protection and the Trust's complaints procedure in the event that you are not satisfied with the response.

Yours sincerely

Sue Smith

Sue Smith
Information Rights Officer

Enc: Copyright Protection and Complaints Procedure Information Leaflet.

If you would like to complete a short survey in relation to your Freedom of Information request please scan the QR code below or click [here](#).

