

4 March 2021

Information Rights & Compliance Team  
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Our Ref: FOI/03771

Thank you for your request concerning Data Security Spending & Training.

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

**1. NHS Trust name**

Please see headed paper.

**2. Region - please select from the following: South East, London, North West, East of England, West Midlands, South West, Yorkshire and the Humber, East Midlands, North East, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland**

East of England.

**3. The total number of full-time and part-time employees employed by your trust (as of 1st October 2020 or latest figures available)**

This information is already in the public domain<sup>1</sup>. Please follow this [link](#) to our annual report where you can locate the requested information under 2.3 Staff Report.

**4. The total number of full-time and part-time employees employed by your trust with professional data security / cybersecurity qualifications (as of 1st October 2020 or latest figures available) - Common qualifications may include any cyber or IT security related qualifications such as CISSP, SSCP, CSA, CEH, CISA, CISM, Security+**

It is not possible to provide you with the requested information within the legal time limit<sup>2</sup>. The information is not held in an assessable format and in order to provide you with the number of staff with a professional data security / cybersecurity qualification would involve manually search every staff members personal file.

Under section 12 of the FOIA a public authority does not have to comply with a request for information if the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit of £450 which equates to 18 hours of an officer's time.

<sup>1</sup> Section 21 – Information is accessible through other means

<sup>2</sup> Section 12 - Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit has been applied

5. **The total number of full-time and part-time employees employed by your trust who have completed cyber security training over the last 12 months (prior to 1st October 2020 or latest figures available)**

As of 22 January; 85% of our staff are compliant with the Mandatory Data Security Awareness training.

6. **How much money (in pounds sterling) has been spent on cyber security training during the last 12 months (prior to 1st October 2020 or latest figures available) this may include GDPR-related training.**

This information is not held in a reportable format.

We are unable to provide the spend in the last 12 months for cyber security training because we do not separate the budget/spend based on the subject of training.

7. **How many penetration tests has your organisation had from an external third-party in the last 12 months? (prior to 1st October 2020 or latest figures available)**

The information you are requesting relating to third party penetration tests and if answered 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.

S31 is subject to a test of prejudice. Please see below for our considered reasons for and against disclosure:

#### **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 security 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.

8. **How many data breaches did your trust report to the ICO between 1st January 2019 and 1st October 2019**

10

9. **How many data breaches did your trust report to the ICO between 1st January 2020 and 1st October 2020**

3

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](#).

