



22nd November 2017

ID Number – FOI 5177

Title: Annual Spend of Cyber Security for the Previous 2 Tax Years

Question:	Trust Response:
What was your total annual spend on cyber security in tax years?: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2014-2015 • 2015-2016 • 2016-2017 • 2017-2018 	Please refer to Note 1 below:
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?	

Note 1:

We are unable to provide the information in response to above questions as these fall under exemption: Section 31(1)(a) – the prevention or detection of crime of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

We consider this exemption applies, because the release of this information may assist an adversary in carrying out a cyber-attack against us. Section 31(1)(a) is a qualified exemption, and we are therefore required to consider the public interest.

The public interest test considered the following:

Whilst we acknowledge the public interest in transparency, we are also mindful that there is greater public interest in allowing organisations to operate without threat of attack through the release of information in this manner. Any attack on our IT networks would affect our ability to maintain our services and lead to data breaches.

We are also applying exemption: Section 40(2) – data protection of the FOIA.

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Under the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) Principle 7, we are required to have appropriate technical and organisational measures in place against unauthorised or unlawful processing of personal data and against accidental loss or destruction of, or damage to, personal data. We need to consider the public interest when applying the data protection principles. The release of the information may pose a risk to our cyber security and that can lead to a breach of Principle 7 of the DPA. We need to protect the data of the people who use our services and of our employees.