

Ref: UHB 17-328

**NHS Foundation Trust** 

Freedom of Information Request

Date 2 June 2017



Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trusts response is as follows:

- 1) Do you deal with computer security in-house or do you use a contractor? In-house
- 2) If you use a contractor what is the name of the company?

  Not applicable
- 3) How much do you pay the contractor? Not applicable
- 4) Who is your Head of IT or equivalent role who has responsibility for making systems secure?
  Computer Services Manager
- 5) How much is your Head of IT paid?

The Head of IT is paid at band 8d as per the Agenda for Change pay scales. Further details can be found on the following link: <a href="http://www.nhsemployers.org/your-workforce/pay-and-reward/agenda-for-change/pay-scales/annual">http://www.nhsemployers.org/your-workforce/pay-and-reward/agenda-for-change/pay-scales/annual</a>

- 6) How many devices did you have running:
  - a) Windows XP
  - b) Windows Vista
  - c) Windows 7
  - d) Windows 8

We do hold this information however Under Section 31(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act, we are required to judge as to whether the disclosure of the information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. Under guidance issued by the Information Commissioner states that this exemption applies if disclosure of the withheld information would, or would be likely to prejudice the prevention of criminal acts in relation to the Trust's computer systems and information, such as hacking, theft of data, misuse of confidential data or the disruption of the Trust's operations.

7) On which date was the trust informed of the patch for MS-17-010 which protects against the Wannacry exploit?

17th March, although it only mentioned SMB server not Wannacry.

8) How many of computers running each of the operating systems above were not patched for MS-17-010 which would have protected against Wannacry? Please give a separate answer for each operating system.

We are unable to disclose the exact figures for each operating system as requested as under Section 31(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act, we are required to judge as to whether the disclosure of the information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. Under guidance issued by the Information Commissioner states that this exemption applies if disclosure of the withheld information would, or would be likely to prejudice the prevention of criminal acts in relation to the Trust's computer systems and information, such as hacking, theft of data, misuse of confidential data or the disruption of the Trust's operations.

We can confirm however that there was a small number of unsupported operating systems until the emergency patch were released.

When do you think you will have phased out all unsupported systems? Complete

9) How many bed days does the trust estimate have been lost as a result of ransomware attacks in the past three years?
None

## Public interest arguments in favour of disclosing the withheld information.

The Trust is aware of the presumption of openness and transparency running through the Freedom of Information Act, and that public authorities should be accountable to the public for their actions and decision-making processes, as public funds are involved.

The Trust also considers that there is a public interest in knowing that it manages data responsibly and securely.

## Public interest factors in favour of maintaining the exemption

The Trust believes that the public interest arguments in favour of withholding the small amount of information are compelling. There is a strong public interest in the highest standards of information compliance being maintained in all public sector organisations; and in particular the secure maintenance of personal and other sensitive data. The Trust considers that disclosure of the information would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of its IT security is clearly contrary to the public interest.

The Trust has carefully considered all public interest arguments both in favour of disclosure and of maintaining the exemption. We have considered that it is vitally important to protect the security of our IT systems again criminal or malicious attack and that there is an extremely compelling interest in doing so. We do not believe that this is outweighed by the arguments in favour of openness and transparency in public sector organisations.

The Trust considers that the public interest in maintaining the exemption in all of the circumstances of this case outweighs that in disclosure of the withheld information. Under guidance from the Freedom of Information Act, the Trust has therefore decided to withhold the requested information.

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Trust Secretary
University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click <a href="here.">here.</a>

Yours sincerely,

