



Resolution

8th Floor,
10 South Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London
E14 4PU
Telephone: 020 7811 2700

August 2024
FOI_6678

The following information was requested on 24 July 2024:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would request you to respond to questions included in the attachment.

For any reason if you are unable to open the attachment do let me know. I can then send the questions within the email itself.

Please note: If you do not have records relating to the questions in the attachment, please pass on this request to your IT department to provide us with the required information.

Our Response

Please find our response in the attached worksheet.

We are unable to disclose the details of our security infrastructure on the grounds of security. Please see our refusal notice below.

Refusal Notice for not disclosing details of security infrastructure

NHS Resolution is unable to disclose the information requested as this information is considered to be exempt from disclosure under:

Section 31 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Law Enforcement

31(1) Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice –

(a) the prevention or detection of crime

We consider that disclosing the details of our security infrastructure would be likely to materially increase the risk of successful attempts to hack our network. The information could be used by any person in the world (as is the nature of a disclosure under FOIA) particularly in conjunction with other information about our systems, to plan or prepare more sophisticated attacks.

Public Interest Test –

Public Interest considerations in disclosing the information

There is a general public interest in openness and transparency in public sector bodies which can help to maintain public trust. We recognise that there is a legitimate interest in knowing what systems we utilise, which helps to promote public confidence that the organisation maintains high levels of security.

Public interest considerations in favour of maintaining the exemption

NHS Resolution recognises its duty to protect personal data and confidential information held on our systems, as disclosure will, in our opinion, weaken our ability to protect our stakeholders & perform our functions.

Disclosing the information requested would mean releasing details about our systems and their security into the public domain. This could make the information accessible to criminals, by enhancing criminals' abilities to carry out cyber-attacks. It also follows that a risk to our systems will also constitute a risk to both the general public and NHS Resolution staff whose information we hold.

By withholding this information, criminals will be prevented from exploiting such information in order to target our systems or individuals.

Balance of Public Interest Test (PIT)

NHS Resolution acknowledges that there is an interest in the public knowing that the organisation has adequate levels of protection in place for its IT systems, to ensure that we mitigate any risks befalling our systems on which we rely to run the organisation. We believe that ensuring the safety of our systems is paramount and on the balance of the PIT, we believe that there would be a clear causative link in disclosing the information you have requested which could expose the organisation to the risk of crime and subsequently endanger or cause harm to those whose data we hold.

NHS Resolution therefore believes that the greater public interest is in withholding this information.

Refusal Notice for not disclosing the budget for laptops

Section 43(2) FOIA (commercial interests)

The requested information contains details which if disclosed, disclosure would be likely to harm the commercial interests of NHSR. This is particularly the case in respect of the commercially sensitive information, which if disclosed would prejudice NHSR's ability to operate in a commercial environment and procure similar services in the future.

Public Interest Test

The exemption in s. 43(2) of FOIA is subject to a public interest test, meaning that NHSR must balance the public interest in disclosing the information against the public interest in maintaining the exemptions.

In this instance, NHSR has carefully deliberated and taken into account factors including transparency and public accountability. It has balanced these against the possibility of harming NHSR's economic and commercial interests in procurement and tendering. Having carefully considered and balanced these arguments, NHSR has reached the conclusion that the public interest balances fall in favour of the exemption cited, and consequently the information sought have been withheld.

This concludes our response to your request.

If you are not satisfied with the service that you have received in response to your information request, it is open to you to make a complaint and request a formal review of our decisions. If you choose to do this, you should write to [Tinku Mitra](#), Deputy Director of Corporate and Information Governance, Data Protection Officer for NHS Resolution, within 28 days of your receipt of this reply. Reviews of decisions made in relation to information requests are carried out by a person who was not involved in the original decision-making about the request.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a review of the decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner will not make a decision unless you have exhausted the local complaints procedure. The address of the Information Commissioner's Office is:

Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

<https://ico.org.uk/>

Q1. Can you please list the number of devices deployed by your organisation for the following?	
Device Type	Number of Devices
Desktop PCs	0
Laptops	975
Mobile Phones	280
Printers	175
Multi Functional Devices (MFDs)	0
Tablets	120
Physical Servers	30
Storage Devices (for example: NAS, SAN)	2
Networking Infrastructure (for example: Switches, Routers, Interfaces, Wireless Access Points)	15
Security Infrastructure (for example: Firewalls, Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS), Virus Monitoring Tools)	Unable to disclose on grounds of cyber security (please refer to our refusal notice in the attached letter)

Q2. Does your organisation plan to procure any of the below enterprise applications or software, if yes, please provide information in the below format.	2024/25 Spend/Budget (£000)	2025/26 Spend/Budget (£000)
Please note, if the applications you're planning to procure are not listed below then do mention them separately.		
Content Management System	No	Not yet planned
Supply Chain Management (SCM)	No	Not yet planned
Inventory Management Software	This information is not held.	Not yet planned
Enterprise Asset Management (EAM) Software	This information is not held.	Not yet planned
Business Intelligence Systems	This information is not held.	Not yet planned
Other software/apps (mention the name of the software)	Yes various based on business needs	Not yet planned

Q3. Do you have any plans to procure End user devices (desktop/laptop/tablet/mobile phones etc)? if yes, please provide information in the below format.	2024/25 Spend/Budget (£000)	2025/26 Spend/Budget (£000)
Desktops	No	Not yet planned
Laptops	Yes - refused on the grounds of commercial interests. Please see the refusal notice in the attached letter.	Not yet planned
Mobile Phones	No	Not yet planned
Tablets and Others (if Others, please specify)	No	Not yet planned

Q4. Do you have any plans to procure below services/software? if yes, please provide information in the below format.	2024/25 Spend/Budget (£000)	2025/26 Spend/Budget (£000)
Artificial Intelligence (AI)	No	Not yet planned
Cyber Security	This information is not held.	Not yet planned