

Ref. No: 794  
Date: 01/06/23  
Subject: Cybersecurity Spend and Patient Services

## REQUEST

For each year (2020 – 2022), please confirm how many cyberattacks your Trust has suffered?

For each year (2020 – 2022), please confirm how many cyberattacks have resulted in the halting of or delay in delivery of care or services to patients?

For each year (2020-2022), please confirm:

-The GBP (£) value of budget allocated to cybersecurity -What percentage of the Trust's entire budget for the financial year was spent on cybersecurity?

How many times in the last 12 months have you audited your third-party suppliers' cybersecurity measures?

## RESPONSE

The information is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

Section 31(1)(a) of the Act states:

31. Law enforcement.

(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,

Guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office[i] states:

*Section 31(1)(a) will cover all aspects of the prevention and detection of crime...The exemption also covers information held by public authorities without any specific law enforcement responsibilities...It could also be used to withhold information that would make anyone, including the public authority*

*itself, more vulnerable to crime for example, by disclosing its own security procedures*

Information disclosed under Freedom of Information becomes publicly available. This means that the impact of disclosure must be considered from the general release of information and not limited to disclosure to one individual (the requestor).

The Trust determines that to disclose the requested information could be used by cyber criminals to identify our preparedness for a cyber-attack. The Trust is therefore exempting this response.