

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 25-032

14 January 2025

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

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

- We can confirm that we do hold the information you are requesting

I would like to request under the Freedom of Information Act details on ransomware attacks on your organisation between 2019 and 2024.

For the avoidance of doubt, a ransomware attack is a type of cyberattack which prevents an organisation accessing their own files or computer networks after criminals manage to infect the system with malware. These type of attacks involve the criminals demanding payment for a key to restore access to the files.

In particular, I would like to know the number of ransomware attacks on your organisation between 2019 and 2024.

I would like to know the number of successful attacks on your system.

I would also like to know the cost of these attacks on your organisation, including the amount of ransom or payments made to restore access to your systems.

I would appreciate it if you could break down the figures for each year.

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.

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:

Data Protection Officer
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston 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

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust