

Freedom of Information Act 2000 disclosure log entry

Reference

19-20407

Date sent

13/05/2020

Subject

Information Technology

Details of enquiry

1. Are the Data Centre's operated by or for the organisation fit for purpose? For example, is there a Business Continuity Plan, is there Disaster Recovery in place or is it a single site?
2. Is there any capital investment in data centres planned in the next 36 months? For example, Mechanical & Electrical or refresh of equipment within the DC such as network, storage area network?
3. Is data privacy and or information security compliance a priority for the organisation's board?
4. On your Organisation's risk register, are there any Information Technology related risks?
 - a. If time/ cost allows, please list the top three related risks.
5. Are the cyber security vulnerabilities within the organisation's existing Information Technology estate increasing?
 - a. Has the organisation had a security breach in the past 12 months?
6. Did the organisation meet its Information Technology savings target in the last Financial Year?
7. What percentage of Information Technology budget is currently allocated to "on-premises" capability vs "cloud" capability?
8. Does the organisation have the skills and resource levels necessary for moving to the cloud?
9. Do you have an EPR in place? – If so which one? If not do you have a timescale of which you have to implement it?
10. In relation to contracts with Amazon Web Services, Microsoft for Azure and/or Google for Google Cloud, was the monthly expenditure higher than budgeted?
 - a. If yes, has the organisation been able to subsequently reduce the cost whilst maintaining service levels for users?

Response Sent

1. Are the Data Centre's operated by or for the organisation fit for purpose? For example, is there a Business Continuity Plan, is there Disaster Recovery in place or is it a single site?

As the FOIA applies only to official recorded information held by the Trust at the time of the request, we are not obliged to answer questions, provide opinions or create new information in response to a request.

We can confirm that the Trust does have Business Continuity Plans and a Disaster Recovery Plan. You can find information our current emergency planning arrangements at <https://tavistockandportman.nhs.uk/about-us/governance/emergency-planning-response-and-recovery/>

2. Is there any capital investment in data centres planned in the next 36 months? For example, Mechanical & Electrical or refresh of equipment within the DC such as network, storage area network?

As above, we are not obliged to answer questions under the FOIA.

3. Is data privacy and or information security compliance a priority for the organisation's board?

As above. Our Trust Board papers are published on our website at <https://tavistockandportman.nhs.uk/about-us/governance/board-of-directors/meetings/>

4. On your Organisation's risk register, are there any Information Technology related risks?

- a. If time/ cost allows, please list the top three related risks.

As above. In respect of 4a, we are withholding this information under Section 31(1)(a) of the FOIA, *the prevention or detection of crime*. Section 31(1)(a) is a qualified exemption that requires us to carry out the public interest test. We have carried out the public interest test and this is shown below:

Arguments in favour of disclosure

- There is a public interest in ensuring that the Trust has controls in place to detect technical vulnerabilities and to mitigate risks
- The public should be assured that the Trust has appropriate information security controls to keep information secure.

Arguments in favour of maintaining the exemption

- Making this information available in the public domain could lead to exploitation by criminals, in particular cyber criminals
- Disclosure of the information could create or increase vulnerability to cyber-attack, which could in turn interrupt or impact continuation of services
- There is a public interest in protecting society from the impact of crime

We have concluded that the degree to which disclosure could prejudice or harm the Trust outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

5. Are the cyber security vulnerabilities within the organisation's existing Information Technology estate increasing?

- a. Has the organisation had a security breach in the past 12 months? (Breach is defined as any cyber/digital attack on the trust which resulted in the damage or loss of data).

As above, the Trust is not obliged to answer questions under the FOIA.

6. Did the organisation meet its Information Technology savings target in the last Financial Year?

N/A – the Trust did not have an IT savings target in the last financial year.

7. What percentage of Information Technology budget is currently allocated to "on-premises" capability vs "cloud" capability?

I can confirm that the Trust holds this information, but we are withholding this information under s.31(1)(a) for the same reason as shown in Item 4a.

Does the organisation have the skills and resource levels necessary for moving to the cloud?

As above, the Trust is not obliged to answer questions, provide opinions or create new information in response to a request.

8. Do you have an EPR in place? – If so which one? If not do you have a timescale of which you have to implement it?

The Trust uses CareNotes as its electronic patient record system.

9. In relation to contracts with Amazon Web Services, Microsoft for Azure and/or Google for Google Cloud, was the monthly expenditure higher than budgeted?
- a. If yes, has the organisation been able to subsequently reduce the cost whilst maintaining service levels for users?

As above, the Trust is not obliged to answer questions. The Trust publishes information on expenditure in its annual report and accounts at <https://tavistockandportman.nhs.uk/about-us/governance/reports-and-accounts/>

I hope that you are satisfied with this response. If you are dissatisfied you can ask us to carry out an internal review of our handling of your request. You can request a review by emailing us at FOI@tavi-port.nhs.uk. Your review will be carried out by a senior officer within the Trust who has not been involved in this response. If you remain dissatisfied following completion of our internal review, you have a right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) at <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/official-information-concerns-report/official-information-concern/> or visit <https://ico.org.uk/global/privacy-notice/how-you-can-contact-us/>.