

Freedom of Information Request

Reference Number: EPUT.FOI.19.1274
Date Received: 12 October 2019

Information Requested:

1. In the last 5 years, how many times has your trust/hospital suffered from a ransomware attack? Please provide specific dates (months/years) if possible.
 2. How much downtime did this cause (in hours)?
 3. Did you pay the ransom? If so, how much was the ransom?
 4. What was the total cost of the incident to your hospital/trust?
-

The Trust believes that to confirm or deny information is held on cyber-attacks or to release any sensitive information could potentially give attackers insight into which types of attacks are successful thereby posing a security risk leaving systems vulnerable. Therefore, this has the potential to prejudice the prevention of crime. Additionally 'cyber-attack' is not a standardised term for all government departments so information is compiled differently or not at all and therefore may not give an accurate reflection of the extent of any incident that may or may not have occurred.

The Trust is therefore applying Section 24 of the Act (National Security).

Publication Scheme:

Applied Exemption:

Section 24: National Security

- (1) Information which does not fall within section 23(1) is exempt information if exemption from section 1(1)(b) is required for the purpose of safeguarding national security.
- (2) The duty to confirm or deny does not arise if, or to the extent that, exemption from section 1(1)(a) is required for the purpose of safeguarding national security.
- (3) A certificate signed by a Minister of the Crown certifying that exemption from section 1(1)(b), or from section 1(1)(a) and (b), is, or at any time was, required for the purpose of safeguarding national

security shall, subject to section 60, be conclusive evidence of that fact.

- (4) A certificate under subsection (3) may identify the information to which it applies by means of a general description and may be expressed to have prospective effect.

As part of the Freedom of Information Act all public organisations are required to proactively publish certain classes of information on a Publication Scheme. A publication scheme is a guide to the information that is held by the organisation. EPUT's Publication Scheme is located on its Website at the following link <https://eput.nhs.uk>