



14 April 2016

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0249-16**

Thank you for your email of 28 February 2016 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. In your email you asked:

*I am writing under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request details of breaches of the Data Protection Act within in your organisation; specifically I am asking for:*

1a. *Approximately how many members of staff do you have?*

1b. *Approximately how many contractors have routine access to your information?*

2a. *Do you have an information security incident/event reporting policy/guidance/management document(s) that includes categorisation/classification of such incidents?*

2b. *Can you provide me with a copy of the latest version of these document(s)? (This can be an email attachment or a link to the document on your publicly facing web site)*

3a. *Do you know how many data protection incidents your organisation has had since April 2011? (Incidents reported to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) as a Data Protection Act (DPA) breach)*

Answer: Yes, No, Only since (date):

3b. *How many breaches occurred for each Financial Year the figures are available for?*

Answer FY11-12: FY12-13: FY13-14: FY14-15:

4a. *Do you know how many other information security incidents your organisation has had since April 2011? (A breach resulting in the loss of organisational information other than an incident reported to the ICO, eg compromise of sensitive contracts or encryption by malware. )*

Answer: Yes, No, Only since (date):

4b. *How many incidents occurred for each Financial Year the figures are available for?*

Answer FY11-12: FY12-13: FY13-14: FY14-15:

5a. *Do you know how many information security events/anomaly your organisation has had since April 2011? (Events where information loss did not occur but resources were assigned to investigate or recover, eg nuisance malware or locating misfiled documents.)*

Answer: Yes, No, Only since (date):

5b. *How many events occurred for each Financial Year the figures are available for?*

Answer FY11-12: FY12-13: FY13-14: FY14-15:

6a. *Do you know how many information security near misses your organisation has had since April 2011? (Problems reported to the information security teams that indicate a possible technical, administrative or procedural issue.)*

Answer: Yes, No, Only since (date):

6b. How many near-misses occurred for each Financial Year the figures are available for?  
Answer FY11-12: FY12-13: FY13-14: FY14-15:

*If the specific answers to 4, 5 and 6 are not readily available, I am content for these questions to be modified/replaced with similar questions that are derived from your organisation's categorisation/classification system within the documents requested in question 2. I would need to first make an FoI request for question 2 in order to frame suitable questions 4, 5 and 6, then make a second request. Similarly calendar year can replace financial year. Please state in the reply if this option has been implemented. My preferred format to receive this information is electronically, but if that is not possible I will be willing to accept hard copy. I would be grateful if you could include my reference Ref: 804148*

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information, which you requested. I can confirm that Wilton Park does hold information relevant to your request. .

Please find the information that Wilton Park can release to you.

Question 1a – Wilton Park has approximately 75 members of staff.

Question 1b – Approximately 2 contractors have routine access to information.

Questions 2a and 2b – Wilton Park does not hold any of the aforementioned documents.

Question (3a) – Yes.

Question (3b):

FY11-12 - 0

FY12-13 – 0

FY13-14 – 0

FY14-15 – 0

Questions (4a), (4b), (5a), (5b), (6a) and (6b) – Exempt under section 31 (law enforcement)

Under the provisions of section 31(3) of FOIA, the duty to confirm or deny does not arise if, or to the extent that, compliance with section 1(1)(a) would, or would be likely to, prejudice any of the matters mentioned in subsection (1) [of s.31].

We take the view that confirming or denying whether this information is held would prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. Clearly cyber (and related information security) attacks are illegal and disclosure of the requested information would enable a person engaged in such activities to deduce the effectiveness of their attacks and of the Department's methods for detecting such incidents.

Section 31 is, however, a qualified exemption, which means that information falling within the exemption must still be disclosed unless the public interest served by doing so is outweighed by the public interest served by maintaining the exemption. I have therefore considered whether the balance of the public interest favours disclosing or withholding this information.

There is a general public interest in openness. I also recognise that there is a public interest served by knowing the effectiveness of the Department's information security measures. However, these public interest considerations have to be weighed against a strong public interest in ensuring the effectiveness of law enforcement. We take the view, as mentioned, that confirming or denying whether this information is held would prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. Inherently therefore the public interest is served by avoiding that consequence. There would need to be an at least equally strong public interest served by the disclosure of the information in this particular case and in all of the circumstances. There is, in our view, no such particular set of circumstances which would merit the disclosure of the information despite the prejudice to law enforcement that would occur as a consequence.

On the basis of the above, and having considered all of these circumstances, I consider that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs that in disclosure. Accordingly, I am withholding the information that you have requested.

Once an FOI request is answered, it is considered to be in the public domain. To promote transparency, we may now publish the response and any material released on [gov.uk](http://gov.uk) in the [FOI releases](#) section. All personal information in the letter will be removed before publishing.

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Yours sincerely

**Senior Information Risk Officer**



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