

We were asked:

For the last three years, broken down by year:

Q1. The number of unauthorised incidents/breaches of the data protection act by members of the department accessing databases and personal information which they are not authorised to have access to, including the month of each incident.

Q2. In each incident/data protection breach what information was accessed or attempted to be accessed.

Q3. In each incident/data protection breach whether any disciplinary action was taken against the member of staff which was involved and the nature of the disciplinary action – where they are of an appropriate level for disclosure please include the position of the member of staff, i.e. senior civil servant.

Q4. Details of the any members of staff resigning due to incidents/data breaches - – where they are of an appropriate level for disclosure please include the position of the member of staff, i.e. senior civil servant.

We replied:

A1. A data security breach, as defined by the Information Commissioner's Office, concerns the unauthorised or unlawful processing of personal data. This includes any accidental loss, destruction or damage to such data. I can confirm that there have been no data losses, leaks or breaches of the Data Protection Act recorded by this Department during the last three years.