



Ministry of Defence Police

Freedom of Information Manager

Ministry of Defence Police

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E-mail: MDP-FOI-DP@mod.gov.uk

Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2023/10477

RFI: 196/23

Date: 11 October 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: DIGITAL EVIDENCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

We refer to your email dated 29 August 2023 to the Ministry of Defence Police which was acknowledged on 30 August 2023.

We are treating your email as a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA 2000).

In your email you requested the following information:

1. Does your force utilise a Digital Evidence Management (DEM) Solution that is widely accessible to officers and staff across the force?

2. If Yes:

- a) What is the name of the solution and who provided the solution?
- b) Is it cloud hosted? If yes, who is the cloud provider?
- c) How many users are licenced to use the DEM Solution?
- d) What is the contracted storage capacity?
- e) Has the force exceeded the contracted storage capacity in the last 12 months?
- f) At the end of the contracted time period, will the force be open to reviewing other available DEM solutions on the market before automatically renewing?
- g) When is the renewal due?
- h) Is this the force's only DEM solution or does the force have other separate DEMs specifically for specialist units, i.e. Major Investigations, Digital Forensics, PSD/ACU, etc? If yes, what is the reason for having a separate DEM?
 - a) Isolation/added internal security
 - b) Concerns over the amount of storage individual Units upload
 - c) Other

3. If No, when is the force intending on starting the procurement process to acquire a DEM Solution?

A search for information has now been completed I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence Police does hold information in scope of your request.

1. Does your force utilise a Digital Evidence Management (DEM) Solution that is widely accessible to officers and staff across the force?

Yes

2. If Yes:

a) What is the name of the solution and who provided the solution?

The Ministry of Defence Police is unable to release information relating to Digital Evidence Management Systems (DEMS) supplier(s) as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) does not apply by virtue of the exemption in Section 31(1) – Law Enforcement. This is a prejudice based qualified exemption and there is a requirement to articulate the harm that would be caused in releasing the information and carry out a public interest test. The balance of this test favours not releasing the information requested.

Section 31(1) is engaged as to release the information would have a detrimental impact on Law Enforcement and would weaken the mechanisms used to investigate criminal activity.

b) Is it cloud hosted? If yes, who is the cloud provider?

The Ministry of Defence Police is unable to release information relating to Digital Evidence Management Systems (DEMS) supplier(s) as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) does not apply by virtue of the exemption in Section 31(1) – Law Enforcement. This is a prejudice based qualified exemption and there is a requirement to articulate the harm that would be caused in releasing the information and carry out a public interest test. The balance of this test favours not releasing the information requested.

Section 31(1) is engaged as to release the information would have a detrimental impact on Law Enforcement and would weaken the mechanisms used to investigate criminal activity.

c) How many users are licenced to use the DEM Solution?

Approximately 775

d) What is the contracted storage capacity?

24448.GB

e) Has the force exceeded the contracted storage capacity in the last 12 months?

No

f) At the end of the contracted time period, will the force be open to reviewing other available DEM solutions on the market before automatically renewing?

No

g) When is the renewal due?

February 2024

h) Is this the force's only DEM solution or does the force have other separate DEMs specifically for specialist units, i.e. Major Investigations, Digital Forensics, PSD/ACU, etc? If yes, what is the reason for having a separate DEM?

a) Isolation/added internal security

b) Concerns over the amount of storage individual Units upload

c) Other

We do not have separate DEMS.

3. If No, when is the force intending on starting the procurement process to acquire a DEM Solution?

Not applicable

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk).

Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely

MDP Secretariat and Freedom of Information Office