

Reference: 2023-095

Thank you for your email in which you requested the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA):

- 1. Data Protection Officers' Training and Qualifications:** It would be appreciated if you could share some details on the types of training and qualifications that your authority recommends or provides funding for. I am particularly interested in understanding how these contribute to ensuring that your Data Protection Officers maintain a high standard in terms of Continuous Professional Development (CPD) and certification.
- 2. Criteria for Consultants and New Recruits in Data Protection:** Furthermore, I am curious about the qualifications or certifications that you look for when engaging with consultants or in the process of recruiting new team members for data protection and freedom of information roles.

For your reference, I am especially keen to know about preferences for qualifications like:

BCS Practitioner or Foundation Certificate in Data Protection EXIN Data Protection Officer Certification PDP FOI or Data Protection Certification IAPP (International Association of Privacy Professionals) Certification.

Response

The SFO holds some of the information requested, please see below each question in the order asked.

Question 1

The SFO's Data Protection Officer (DPO) is a certified GDPR Practitioner.

Question 2

The criteria for individual data protection roles are tailored in each instance and therefore we do not hold a recruitment framework for these roles.