



Government Legal Department

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Ref No: FOI 25_192

2nd October 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 5th September 2025 containing your request for information. The Government Legal Department ("GLD") have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act", "FOIA")

Response

Pursuant to Section 1(1)(a), GLD confirms that it holds the information you have requested.

1. The total number of laptops currently in the department's installed base (i.e., in active use by staff). IT security and crime prevention (Section 31(1)(a))

We are also unable to provide the total number of laptops in use within the department. Disclosing this information could assist malicious actors in seeking to compromise our systems, which would be likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. This information is therefore withheld under Section 31(1)(a) of the FOIA.

Public Interest Test

The exemptions contained within section 31(1)(a) of the Act require a public interest test to balance the public interest in favour of and against disclosure. Please refer to table 1.

Table 1

Factors in Favour of Disclosure	Factors Against Disclosure
Promoting openness and transparency of government, which may increase public trust and engagement in both the government and governing processes.	There is a public interest in transparency, we believe the greater public interest lies in protecting the department's IT systems and ensuring their ongoing security.

2. The name and job title of the person or team responsible for the department's end user compute infrastructure.
3. The name and job title of the person or team responsible for user device satisfaction (e.g., monitoring or managing employee satisfaction with laptops and related devices).
4. The name and job title of the person responsible for the department's sustainability strategy.

If possible, please provide this information for the most recent financial year available or otherwise confirm the date on which the figures are current.

The names and job titles of the individuals responsible for end user computing infrastructure, user device satisfaction, and the department's sustainability strategy are considered personal data. These individuals are below the Senior Civil Service level and have a reasonable expectation of privacy. Releasing this information would breach the data protection principles in the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018. For this reason, we are withholding this information under Section 40(2) of the FOIA.

Your Rights

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask GLD for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted to GLD within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original correspondence. Please use the contact details provided at the top of this letter in order to request an internal review relating to your original request.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
www.ICO.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

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