FOI 3549

Date 14/01/2025

Dear Requester,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request. Please note, this is a cross-site response for Bedford site and Luton site.

You asked:

I would like to request under the Freedom of Information Act details on ransomware attacks on your organisation between 2019 and 2024.

For the avoidance of doubt, a ransomware attack is a type of cyberattack which prevents an organisation accessing their own files or computer networks after criminals manage to infect the system with malware. These type of attacks involve the criminals demanding payment for a key to restore access to the files.

1. In particular, I would like to know the number of ransomware attacks on your organisation between 2019 and 2024.
2. I would like to know the number of successful attacks on your system.
3. I would also like to know the cost of these attacks on your organisation, including the amount of ransom or payments made to restore access to your systems.
4. I would appreciate it if you could break down the figures for each year.

Section 31(1) - This FOI request is exempt under Section 31(1) Information is exempt if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice - (a) the prevention or detection of crime. It could be used to withhold information that would make anyone, including the public authority itself, more vulnerable to crime for example, by disclosing its own security procedures and it is the view of this Trust that the disclosure of the requested information would prejudice our ability to resist cyber-attacks on our systems.

This information is provided for your personal use and is the property of Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust and subject to any existing Intellectual Property and Database Rights. Any commercial application or use of this information may be subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015 (RPSI). This means that if you wish to re-use the information provided for commercial purposes for any reason you must ask the Trust for permission to do so.

Please note that the Trust has a formal internal review and complaints process which is managed by the Information Governance Manager/Data Protection Officer. Should you have any concerns with our response, you can make a formal request for an internal review. Requests for internal review should be submitted within three months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter, and should be addressed to: dataprotectionofficer@ldh.nhs.uk. This option is available to you for up to three calendar months from the date your response was issued.

If you are not satisfied with the Trust review under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Officer (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. The ICO can be contacted at: ICO, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

*FOI Officer*

Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust