



London Borough of Camden  
Information and Records  
Management  
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**e-mail:**  
**foi@camden.gov.uk**

**Date:** 21/04/2023

**Case reference:** CAM5054

Dear Requester

Thank you for your request for information dated 06/04/2023 about **cyber security and cyber-attacks. recording number, how many, financial cost and cyber insurance cover**. We have dealt with this under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

## **Response**

The council holds the information requested. However, we are withholding the information because it is exempt as explained below. We have explained where we are withholding information and what exemption applies. Please see the refusal notice below which explains how and why it applies.

*I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information on Cyber Security / Cyber Attacks.*

*Please provide the information in the attached form.*

*If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.*

*If you can identify any ways that my request could be refined I would be grateful for any further advice and assistance.*

*If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me via email and I will be very happy to clarify what I am asking for and discuss the request, my details are outlined below.*

*Thank you for your time and I look forward to your response.*

*Q1. Cyberattacks are unwelcome attempts to steal, expose, alter, disable or destroy information through unauthorised access to computer systems. Does your department record the number of cyber-attacks it receives?*

Yes / No / Don't know

Q2. If it does record the number of cyber attacks it receives, how many did it receive in the following years?

2020 / 2021 / 2022

Q3. Does the department you work for record the total financial cost, e.g. fixing the hack, paying any ransoms, loss of earnings etc of cyber-attacks?

Yes / No / Don't know

Q4. If it does record the number of cyber-attacks it receives, how many did it receive in 2021 and 2022?

2021 2022

Number of attacks

Total Value of Attacks in GBP

Q5. Does your organisation you work for have a cyber-insurance policy?

Yes / No / Don't know

Q6. Has your cyber-insurance premium increased in the last year.

Yes / No / Don't know

Q7. What is the percentage increase in your cyber-insurance premium?

0-10% / 11-20% / 21-30% / 31-40% / 41-50% / 51-75% / 76-100% / Over 100%

This information is exempt. Please see the exemption notice set out below.

## **Refusal Notice**

The exemption that applies is:

### **section 31(1)(a) – Law Enforcement**

We do not release information about cyber-attacks, the potential results of any cyber-attacks or any measures taken to mitigate or prevent cyber-attacks as releasing this information itself could affect our cyber security. We consider disclosing this information would make the council a target of crime. Therefore, this information is exempt from disclosure under section 31 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Section 31(1)(a) says that we do not need to provide information that would be likely to prejudice the functions of law enforcement - the prevention and detection of crime.

Camden believes that releasing this information would increase the likelihood of criminals using the information to target attacks against public bodies. For example, releasing this information may make the council a more attractive target for cyber or ransomware attacks.

Public Interest Test:

As Section 31 is a qualified exemption we need to consider the public interest test.

Factors in favour of disclosure:

- It would help transparency and accountability of the council
- It could show how effective our cyber security and measures taken to mitigate or prevent the effects of cyber attacks

Factors in favour of withholding:

- There is an inherent public interest in crime prevention.
- There is public interest in avoiding the costs (financial, distress, inconvenience, publicity, regulatory) associated with any cyber or ransomware attacks
- There is public interest in preventing any threat to the integrity of council data
- There is public interest in ensuring the council can comply with its duties to take all necessary steps to safeguard data

We believe that the balance of public interest lies in upholding the exemption and not releasing the information.

## **Further Information**

We do not give our consent for any names and contact details provided in this response to be sent marketing material. Any such use will be reported to the ICO as a breach of General Data Protection Regulations and the Privacy and Electronic Communication Regulations.

Why not check our Portal [Open Data Camden](#) before making a new request as your question may already be answered by a previous [FOI response](#) or in one of our many useful and interesting datasets.

## **Your Rights**

If you are not happy with how your response was handled you can request an Internal Review within 2 months of this letter by email to [foireviews@camden.gov.uk](mailto:foireviews@camden.gov.uk) or post: Information and Records Management Team, London Borough of Camden, Town Hall, Judd Street, London WC1H 9JE. Please quote your case reference number. If you are not satisfied with the Internal Review outcome you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office at [icocasework@ico.org.uk](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk), Telephone: 0303 123 1113, live chat <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact->

[us/live-chat/](#) or webform <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>. The ICO website <https://www.ico.org.uk> may be useful.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Williams  
Information Rights Officer