

Date: 26/07/2021

Case reference: CAM1851

Dear Requester

Thank you for your request for information dated 06/07/2021 about **our IT Cyber Security and decision making**. We have dealt with this under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Response

The council holds the information requested. However we are withholding some of 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 at the end of the answers which explain how and why it applies.

1) Who is the key decision maker for vendor selection of IT security solutions? What are their contact details?

The key decision maker is Mr Andy Snape the Head of Technology. His contact details are:
andy.snape@camden.gov.uk, 020 7974 3738

2) Who else forms part of the IT security decision making process within the Authority? What are their contact details?

- *Information Security Manager: currently vacant*
- *Infrastructure Manager: currently vacant*
- *Principal Architect: Mr Gary Powell - gary.powell@camden.gov.uk, 020 7974 8994*
- *Head of Applications: Mr Jack McGarrigle - jack.mcgarrrigle@camden.gov.uk, 020 7974 4028*

3) When did you last benchmark/review your IT security provisioning?

[This information is exempt. Please see the exemption notice set out below.](#)

4) How many malicious attempts to breach your IT security defences have you experienced in the last 12months?

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

5) *When did you last experience a breach of your IT security defences?*

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

Refusal

The exemption that applies is:

section 31: prejudicial to law enforcement

It is the council's view that release of further information relating to the council's cyber security, would be likely to compromise the council's information security strategies by giving cyber criminals insight into vulnerabilities which may, or may not, exist.

Section 31 is a qualified exemption, as such we have gone on to perform a public interest test in order to assess the public interest arguments for and against release.

Public interest arguments for disclosure;

- release of information would demonstrate a commitment to transparency with regard to the council's undertakings, and could provide assurance that the council have robust IT infrastructure in place

Public interest arguments for withholding information:

- Maintaining the integrity and security of the council's systems
- Preventing cyber-attacks and similar against the council systems.
- Release of the information requested would be likely to offer cyber criminals insight into not only the strengths of the council's cyber security, but also any potential weaknesses that may exist. This could ultimately result in a future cyberattack.
- One of the reasons that cyber security measures are in place is to protect the integrity of personal and sensitive personal information.
- It is clear to see how the occurrence of a future cyber-attack would prejudice the council's legal duty to safeguard personal information from loss, theft, inappropriate access or destruction, which is why Section 31 has been employed in this case.

On balance the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs that in confirming or denying whether information is held and therefore the council neither confirms nor denies whether this information is held.

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 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 casework@ico.org.uk telephone 0303 123 1113, or post to Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. The ICO website www.ico.org.uk may be useful.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Williams
Information Rights Officer