



[REDACTED]

3 November 2020

Dear [REDACTED],

**Freedom of Information request: FOI2020/00341**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 15 October in which you requested the following:

**Your request:**

*Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 may I kindly request the following information about your IT Infrastructure Information. The information needed is as follows:*

**SECURITY / CYBERSECURITY:**

- *What SEIM (Security Event and Incident Management) solution is used by your organisation?*
- *When does your SEIM (Security Event and Incident Management) platform license subscription come up for renewal?*
- *If the SEIM (Security Event and Incident Management) solution was purchased via third party please disclose the contracting party's details?*
- *Do you outsource your security management to a third party (managed security service provider)? If so can you disclose the name of the managed security service provider.*
- *When does the current service contract from the current managed security service provider end?*
- *Can you provide the email address of the individual that is responsible for your IT Security?*
- *ICO - breaches: How many cyber security breaches has your organisation had over the past 2 years?*

**Our response**

I can confirm UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) hold the information relevant to your request. Please see the information below.

**What SEIM (Security Event and Incident Management) solution is used by your organisation?**

We have determined that releasing the information requested would prejudice the prevention or detection of crime as per Section 31(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act.

Section 31(1)(a) is a qualified exemption and therefore subject to a public interest test. UKRI applied the Public Interest Test to this request as set out below;

**Public interest in favour of disclosure:**

- There is a public interest in transparency and accountability, and in disclosing information about government or public authority IT infrastructure and contracts.
- There is a public interest in providing information as to how secure the IT infrastructure is.

## **Public interest test in favour of withholding the information:**

- The release of this information would make UKRI more vulnerable to crime.
- Disclosing the brand of SIEM system into the public domain could inform individuals with malicious intent of the type of system we use, and thereby result in UKRI's computer systems being more vulnerable to a cyberattack, facilitating the possibility of a criminal offence being carried out.
- Disclosure could result in an increased opportunity for an attack which could compromise the integrity of the information we hold.
- There is an overwhelming public interest in keeping public authority computer systems secure in order to perform effectively, which would be best served in this instance by non-disclosure.

UKRI has therefore reached the conclusion that, on balance, the public interest is better served by withholding the selected information under Section 31(1)(a).

## **When does your SEIM (Security Event and Incident Management) platform license subscription come up for renewal?**

14 August 2021

## **If the SEIM (Security Event and Incident Management) solution was purchased via third party, please disclose the contracting party's details?**

Software Box Ltd

## **Do you outsource your security management to a third party (managed security service provider)?**

**If so, can you disclose the name of the managed security service provider.**

No – UKRI does not outsource security management to a third party.

## **When does the current service contract from the current managed security service provider end?**

N/A

## **Can you provide the email address of the individual that is responsible for your IT Security?**

We are exempting the requested information under section 40(2) of the FOIA.

Section 40(2) exempts personal information such as names of individuals from disclosure if that information relates to someone other than the applicant, and if disclosure of that information would, amongst other things, contravene one of the data protection principles in Article 5(1) of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and section 34(1) of the Data Protection Act 2018. In this case, we believe disclosure would contravene the first data protection principle, which provides that processing of personal data is lawful and fair. We have considered the legitimate interests of all parties in disclosure of this information and have found that on balance there is not an overriding legitimate interest in disclosure that outweighs the reasonable expectations of privacy of the individuals concerned.

Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and UKRI is not obliged to consider whether the public interest favours disclosing the information.

IT Security enquires for UKRI can be directed to [ddatbusinessops@ukri.org](mailto:ddatbusinessops@ukri.org)

## **ICO - breaches:**

### **How many cyber security breaches has your organisation had over the past 2 years?**

Under Section 21 - Information already reasonably accessible, of the FOIA the following information you have requested is already available in the public domain in the UKRI Annual Reports:

[Annual Report and Accounts 2018-2019](#)<sup>1</sup>

[Annual Report and Accounts 2019-2020](#)<sup>2</sup>

Section 21 is an absolute exemption which means that there is no requirement to conduct a public interest test.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/UKRI-050920-AnnualReport2018-2019.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/901397/UKRI\\_Annual\\_Report\\_and\\_Accounts\\_2019-20\\_print\\_ready.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/901397/UKRI_Annual_Report_and_Accounts_2019-20_print_ready.pdf)

If you have any queries regarding our response or you are unhappy with the outcome of your request and wish to seek an internal review of the decision, please contact:

Head of Information Governance


Email: [foi@ukri.org](mailto:foi@ukri.org) or [infogovernance@ukri.org](mailto:infogovernance@ukri.org)

Please quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are still not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may apply to refer the matter to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the review procedure provided by UKRI. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: <http://www.ico.gov.uk/>

If you wish to raise a complaint regarding the service you have received or the conduct of any UKRI staff in relation to your request, please see UKRI's complaints policy: <https://www.ukri.org/about-us/policies-and-standards/complaints-policy/>

Yours sincerely,

  
Information Governance  
Information Rights Team  
UK Research and Innovation  
[foi@ukri.org](mailto:foi@ukri.org) | [dataprotection@ukri.org](mailto:dataprotection@ukri.org)