

[REDACTED]

22 May 2017

2017-18 FOI 004

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information, which has been considered under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

In your email you ask for the following information:

I would like to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 relating to cyber attacks on your organisation.

To be clear, by "cyber attack" I am referring to the unauthorised access or deliberate disruption of a computer system or a device owned and/or operated by your organisation. Types of cyber attack could include, but are not limited to: ransomware, denial of service, phishing and spear phishing.

By data, I refer to any information held on your computer systems or devices

Please could you answer the following:-

- 1) Does your organisation keep an incident log of cyber attacks?*
- 2) How many cyber attacks - attempted and successful - were recorded against your organisation in the last three financial years (ie 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17)?*
- 3) Where cyber attacks were successful, what kind and amount of data, if any, was lost or stolen? Was it confidential?*

For each case, please confirm:

- 4) The type of attack (eg ransomware, denial of service etc)*
- 5) What demand, for example a Bitcoin payment, was made to resolve the attack? Did your organisation comply?*
- 6) Whether the attack was reported to police or other responsible authority? To the best of your knowledge, was the attacker traced/convicted?*

The Boundary Commission for England (BCE) does not hold any of the information you have requested. We are an independent advisory non-departmental public body sponsored by the Cabinet Office. As such, the BCE's IT hardware, email, electronic document management system and internal networking systems (and security arrangements surrounding those) are provided by the Cabinet Office. The BCE currently has two websites, one general corporate site for regular information about us and our work, and another consultation website specifically designed to support the 2018 Review of constituencies. For both, third party companies host and support the websites, including the application of appropriate defence against cyber attacks, so BCE does not itself operate or keep records of such IT security activity.

If you wish to pursue your request for information further, you can contact the Cabinet Office FOI team at the following email address: foi-team@cabinetoffice.gov.uk.

If you have any queries about the content of this reply please contact me direct, quoting the above reference number on any communication.

Under the provisions of the FOI Act if you are dissatisfied with the response provided you may wish to ask for an internal review. The BCE has a reciprocal arrangement with the Boundary Commission for Wales and in this case you should write to:

The Secretary to the Boundary Commission for Wales,
Ground Floor,
Fitzalan Court,
Cardiff,
CF24 0BL
Email: bcomm.wales@wales.gsi.gov.uk

If it transpires you are not content with our response or the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the BCE. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Office of the Information Commissioner,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,



Mr Chris Wilcox,
Information Manager