

Official

Ref: FOI-325

Sent via email only: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

10 February 2022

1. Thank you for your email of 13 December 2021 in which you requested information from UK Anti-Doping ('UKAD') under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act').
2. The responses to your request, where provided, are below:
 1. *Do you have a formal IT security strategy? (Please provide a link to the strategy)*
 - A. Yes – Statement of Applicability for ISO27001 certification. UKAD confirms that it holds the link but has concluded that it is exempt from disclosure, pursuant to Section 31(1)(a) of the Act. The reasons for this are set out below.
 2. *Does this strategy specifically address the monitoring of network attached device configurations to identify any malicious or non-malicious change to the device configuration?*
 - A. Yes
 3. *If yes to Question 2, how do you manage this identification process – is it:*
 - A. Totally automated – all configuration changes are identified and flagged without manual intervention.
 4. *Have you ever encountered a situation where user services have been disrupted due to an accidental/non-malicious change that had been made to a device configuration?*
 - B. No
 5. *If a piece of malware was maliciously uploaded to a device on your network, how quickly do you think it would be identified and isolated?*

- A. Immediately
6. *How many devices do you have attached to your network that require monitoring?*
Physical Servers - 0
PCs & Notebooks - 100
7. *Have you ever discovered devices attached to the network that you weren't previously aware of?*
B. No
8. *How many physical devices (IPs) do you have attached to your network that require monitoring for configuration vulnerabilities?*
100
9. *Have you suffered any external security attacks that you have used malware on a network attached device to help breach your security measures?*
A. Never
10. *Have you ever experienced service disruption to users due to an accidental, non-malicious change being made to device configurations?*
A. Never
11. *When a scheduled audit takes place for the likes of PSN or Cyber Essentials, how likely are you to get significant numbers of audit fails relation to the status of the IT infrastructure?*
A. Never

Application of Section 31 of the Act to the information requested at question 1 of your request

3. Section 31(1) of the Act states:

Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice

—

(a) the prevention or detection of crime ...

4. UKAD has concluded that disclosure of the link requested at question 1 would be likely to prejudice the prevention of crime. This is because disclosure would be a risk to UKAD's cyber-security in the future, since it would make public information that could be used by any individual seeking to hack UKAD's IT system.
5. Having concluded that disclosure of this information would be likely to prejudice the prevention of crime, being the prevention of cyber-attacks, UKAD has gone on to consider whether the public interest nonetheless favours disclosure.
6. UKAD recognises the importance of transparency and accountability, including the advantages of public oversight of government systems and processes. UKAD also acknowledges that there is a public interest in ensuring that the data held by governmental bodies is held securely.
7. On the other hand, there is also a public interest in ensuring the continued effectiveness of the protection of data (including third party personal data) held by those systems. This is especially important given the sensitive personal data which UKAD holds, such as personal medical records.
8. Having considered the public interest arguments both for and against maintaining the exemption, UKAD has concluded that the balance of the public interest falls in favour of maintaining the exemption in this instance.

Conclusion

4. If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your request and should be addressed via email to: foi@ukad.org.uk. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any further communications.
5. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

UK Anti-Doping