

FOI – 2238

19th March 2024

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

Request:

Information regarding Southern Trust's Cloud usage and Data storage

Response:

Your request for information regarding Southern Trust's Cloud usage and Data storage has now been considered and part of the information requested is enclosed on the attached PDF.

Part of the information requested is exempt from disclosure and Section 31 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 has been applied. Although the Southern Trust understands that there is a public interest in being open and transparent, the information requested has the potential to leave the Trust vulnerable to cyber-attacks. By disclosing these details, this information could prejudice and compromise the Trust's network/IT security.

In accordance with Section 31 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Law enforcement – the prevention or detection of crime, states that information is exempt if its disclosure is likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. ICO guidance states that this can be used to protect information on a public authority's systems which would make it more vulnerable to crime. It can be used by a public authority that has no law enforcement function:

- To protect the work of one that does
- To withhold information that would make anyone, including the public authority itself, more vulnerable to crime

We believe that putting this information into the public domain would make the Trust more vulnerable to cyber-attacks. The public interest in maintaining the security of our systems and providing safe health and social care to our patients/clients outweighs the public interest in disclosure of this information.

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