East Cambridgeshire District Council

www.eastcambs.gov.uk
ContactUs@eastcambs.gov.uk
01353 665555

Further to your information request FOI/EIR 24/25-134, please find your question and our response below.

Request:

1.1) When did you conduct your last IT Health Check?
1.2) When is your next IT Health Check due?
1.3) Do you conduct other cybersecurity penetration testing?
1.4) Are you in a contract for your IT Health Check / other testing? If so, when will this be up for renewal?
1.5) Who is the contact person at the Council for the annual IT Health Check?

2.1) When is the next date to renew compliance validation for PCI DSS?
2.2) Will the Council be requiring consultancy to ensure they adhere to the new PCI DSS 4.0?
2.3) Who is the contact person at the Council looking after PCI DSS compliance?

3.1) Do the Council adhere to other data security standards, such as Cyber Essentials Basic, Cyber Essentials Plus, ISO27001?
3.2) If no, do the Council plan on achieving any of these accreditations?

4.1) Does the Council currently utilise an in-house or outsourced Security Operations Centre for solutions such as EDR, MDR, or XDR?
4.2) Do the Council have Windows Defender for EDR. If so, is this managed in-house or externally?

5) What are the contact details for the Data Protection Officer?

Response:

1-4)
We acknowledge that we do hold the information to be able to respond to this request, but we are withholding this information under FOI exemption 31(1)(a) – Prevention or Detection of Crime.

In respect of those requests that were answered in full or partially and the total refused please take this as notice under FOIA, that we:
a) Consider the information as exempt from disclosure under the Act.
b) Claim exempt under sections of the Act:
Section 31(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000
c) State why the exemption applies:
31(1) 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.

We do not release information about what IT security systems we have in place, the suppliers and versions of our IT security, how often we update and amend our security, whether we have identified particular issues or vulnerabilities and what we have done to strengthen those. This is because we consider disclosing this information would make the council a target of crime. Section 31(1)(a) says that we do not need to provide information that would be likely to prejudice the functions of law enforcement- the prevention and detection of crime. We feel that

releasing this information would increase the likelihood of criminals using the information to target attacks against council systems. For example, knowing when we last updated a security system would allow criminals to know what vulnerabilities existed at that time and target attacks on those. Knowing if East Cambs systems are monitored in a specific way could increase the chances of other our systems being targeted by criminals.

5) Victoria Higham, Information Officer, Email: dataprotection@eastcambs.gov.uk

This concludes your request FOI/EIR 24/25-134.

If information has been refused, please treat this as a Refusal Notice for the purposes of the Act.

If you disagree with our decision or are otherwise unhappy with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you may approach foi@eastcambs.gov.uk and request a review. A request for review must be made in no more than 40 working days from the date of this email.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under s50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.