

14 August 2023

IC-246415-N9S2

## Request

You asked us:

*"We are researching the number cyber incidents reported to the ICO and are interested in your 'Cyber Investigations' and 'Cyber Incidents' dataset (link below).*

<https://ico.org.uk/about-the-ico/our-information/complaints-and-concerns-datasets/cyber-investigations/>

*We would like to know if you have any data available before Q4 2020/21 and whether this can be made available to us?*

*In addition to this, in column 'A' of the attached file, we would like to know what is meant by the reference number that is assigned to each organisation."*

We received your request on 18 July 2023.

We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOIA).

## Our response

I have consulted with the relevant areas of the ICO and I can confirm that we do not hold the requested datasets from before January 2021. Whilst we hold some of the information in scope, due to our retention schedules we not hold enough data to produce complete and comprehensive datasets. If you were interested in a particular type of case then we may be able to provide some relevant data, however due to the age of the cases we would not be able to respond with a complete dataset.

In answer to the second part of your request column A is an internal reference number used by the ICO in our case management systems.

## Next steps

You can ask us to review our response. Please let us know in writing if you want us to carry out a review. Please do so within 40 working days.

You can read a copy of our full review procedure [here](#).

If we perform a review but you are still dissatisfied, you can complain to the ICO as regulator of the FOIA and EIR. This complaint will be handled just like a complaint made to the ICO about any other public authority.

You can [raise a complaint through our website](#).

## Your information

Our [Privacy notice](#) explains what we do with the personal data you provide to us, and set out your rights. Our retention schedule can be found [here](#).

Yours sincerely

Senior Information Access Officer



Information Access Team  
Risk and Governance Department, Corporate Strategy and  
Planning Service  
Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water  
Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF  
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