

**Date:** 31 July 2023

## **IC-243181-T6W3**

### **Request**

You asked us:

*"Are you able to tell me how much money has been paid out across all government departments and organisations for Ransomware attacks?"*

We received your request on 5 July 2023. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOIA).

### **Our response**

I have made enquiries with our Cyber team about whether we hold a record of all ransoms paid by government departments and organisations. I can confirm we do not hold information in scope of your request.

Data controllers are not required to tell us if they have paid a ransom. You may want to address individual requests to government departments who interest you. You may be interested to know that government departments are likely to follow the National Cyber Security Centre's [guidance](#), which advises against paying ransom demands.

### **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. 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



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