

17 January 2024

IC-278329-C1Z0

## **Request**

*Data Protection Officers' Training and Qualifications: It would be appreciated if you could share some details on the types of training and qualifications that your authority recommends or provides funding for. I am particularly interested in understanding how these contribute to ensuring that your Data Protection Officers maintain a high standard in terms of Continuous Professional Development (CPD) and certification.*

*Criteria for Consultants and New Recruits in Data Protection: Furthermore, I am curious about the qualifications or certifications that you look for when engaging with consultants or in the process of recruiting new team members for data protection and freedom of information roles.*

*For your reference, I am especially keen to know about preferences for qualifications like:*

*BCS Practitioner or Foundation Certificate in Data Protection  
EXIN Data Protection Officer Certification  
PDP FOI or Data Protection Certification  
IAPP (International Association of Privacy Professionals) Certification*

We received your request on 28 December 2024.

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

## **Our response**

We do not hold information in scope of your request.

There is no specific external training or qualification that the DPO was required to undertake. Our data protection and FOI training is provided in-house. I can confirm that our current DPO holds the ISEB Certificate in Data Protection, however this was not a requirement of the role.

There is no requirement for prospective employees in data protection and/or FOI roles to have obtained professional qualifications such as those listed.

### **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](#) on our website.

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 sets out [your rights](#). Our [Retention and Disposal Policy](#) details how long we keep information.

Yours sincerely



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