

1 March 2024

**ICO case reference-IC-289744-D2C0**

**Request**

You asked : *"I would like to know who is the registered DPO for Lawsons (whetstone) Ltd and what date was they registered?"*

We received your request on 22 February 2024.

We have handled your request under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOIA). This legislation entitles a requester to recorded information held by a public authority, unless an appropriate exemption applies.

**Our response**

Having searched Register of data protection fee payers which is available on our website at [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk) I can confirm that we have been able to locate a register entry for Lawson (Wheatstone) Ltd under registration number Z56672228- [Information Commissioner's Office - Register of data protection fee payers - Entry details \(ico.org.uk\)](http://www.ico.org.uk).

They first registered on 19 September 2001.

The entry on the register includes the contact details and generic email of the registered DPO (data protection officer).

As this information is publicly available and reasonably accessible to you via the Register of data protection fee payers it is technically withheld under section 21 of FOIA.

It is an absolute exemption and it is not necessary to consider any public interest tests.

I can confirm that whilst we do hold the name of the data protection officer they have chosen not to publish that information on the public register.

In view of that we are withholding this information as it is personal data of a third party and as such exempt under section 40(2) of the FOIA an explanation is provided below.

### **FOIA section 40(2)**

Disclosure of this personal data of a third party would break the first principle of data protection - that personal data is processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner.

There is no strong legitimate interest that would override the prejudice that disclosure would cause to the rights and freedoms of the individuals concerned. So we are withholding the information under section 40(2) of the FOIA.

This concludes our response to your request.

### **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

Information Access Team  
Information Commissioner's Office



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