24 April 2024

Case Reference IC-299986-Q4S1

Your request

You asked us for the following:

"*detailed information on the number of cyber security incidents reported by charities for each month in 2023.*

Specifically, I would like to request the following:

The total number of cyber security incidents reported by charities for each month in 2023.

If possible, a brief description of the nature of these incidents (e.g., phishing attacks, data breaches, ransomware).

Any trends or patterns observed in the reporting of these incidents over the year."

Where your questions satisfy the criteria of a valid information request, we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Our response

Please find attached a dataset detailing the personal data breach reports we have received from the sector 'Charitable and voluntary' in the calendar year 2023. You can filter this by month of receipt and closure. The 'Incident type' gives you a brief description of the potential breach and an indication of whether the breach resulted from a cyber security incident, as does the next column, but please bear in mind that the completion of these fields is based on the discretion and judgement of the case officer handling the case.

However, please bear in mind the following caveat from our website:

- The way we categorise incidents as cyber or non-cyber within the dashboard is currently under review. As noted above, caution should be taken when drawing conclusions from the split of incident category.

As to "trends or patterns", the only information we hold which may be considered within scope of this part of your request is a breakdown of cyber incident types within the sector for the financial year 2023-24 as follows:

IncidentType	Cases Received
Brute Force	6
Denial of service	1
Hardware/software misconfiguration	2
Malware	11
Not Provided	8
Other cyber incident	50
Other non-cyber incident	2
Phishing	15
Ransomware	75
Unauthorised access	4

You can find further information on the [Data security incident trends | ICO](#) area of our website.

This concludes our response.

We hope you find this information helpful.