

18 June 2024

## **IC-312643-LOG4**

### **Request**

You asked us:

*"- The total number of Information Commissioner's Office employees who have moved to roles (being employed) at the company Amazon directly after working at the ICO*

*If possible, please also provide a breakdown of each of their leaving dates and job titles, without providing any identifiable details if this would be exempt or over the cost limit*

*Please could you provide this data, for the following years, separately, 2024 (to date), 2023 and 2022.*

*If it does not exceed the cost limit, please also provide this for 2022, 2021, 2020 and 2019.*

*- The number of Information Commissioner's Office employees who have moved to roles (being employed) at Alphabet (Google) directly after working at the ICO,*

*- The number of Information Commissioner's Office employees who have moved to roles (being employed) at Apple directly after working at the ICO,*

*- The number of Information Commissioner's Office employees who have moved to roles (being employed) at Meta directly after working at the ICO,*

*- The number of Information Commissioner's Office employees who have moved to roles at (being employed) Microsoft directly after working at the ICO,*

*If possible, please also provide a breakdown of each of their leaving dates and job titles, without providing any identifiable details if this would be exempt or over the cost limit*

*Please could you provide this data, for the following years, separately, 2024 (to date), 2023 and 2022.*

*If it does not exceed the cost limit, please also provide this for 2022, 2021, 2020 and 2019."*

We received your request on 11 June.

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

## **Our response**

We hold some information within the scope of your request.

The only place where information is routinely recorded about where employees intend to work next after leaving the ICO is a leaver questionnaire, which has only been in place since October 2023, and it is not compulsory for staff to answer this question.

Having conducted a search of these questionnaires, none included the names of any of the Companies mentioned as an employee's next intended employer.

A search of leaver files, which may contain this information in some cases, recovered one result that indicated that an employee intended to work for Meta after leaving the ICO. This occurred in 2022, but their exact leaving date and job title was not recorded alongside this information, and we're not able to match it with this information from the records that we hold.

There is a possibility that some of this information may be held ad-hoc outside of personnel files, however we would not be able to search for such instances without breaching the costs limit under s.12 FOIA of 18 hours of searching.

This would involve searches of correspondence held across the ICO and, as you will appreciate, could not be achieved through electronic searches using the Company names as these would return hundreds of thousands of irrelevant results, if not more.

This concludes our response.

## **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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