



Trust Headquarters
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www.secamb.nhs.uk

29th April 2026
Internal Reference: 260407
Email:

Dear ,

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on **04/04/2026**. We have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. **Please ensure you quote the Internal Reference number above in any future correspondence.**

Your Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information for each calendar year from 2020 to 2026 inclusive:

1. The number of cyber security breaches that have being identified that were found to be a result of a malicious threat actor (i.e. not accidental data breach).
2. The breakdown in high-level causes of these breaches as identified by cyber security incident response teams (CSIRTs), for example (but not limited to) unpatched software/hardware, lack of multi-factor authentication (MFA), leaked user credentials, lack of in-transit encryption, etc
3. The number of breaches that occurred that were attributed to a previously known vulnerability to the organisations hardware, software, policies, or processes, for example where system was known to be at risk due to being unpatched or out of support, or security controls were recommended but not enforced, and was defined within the resulting incident response report.
4. The estimated combined costs incurred as a result of cyber security breaches defined in request number one in each year.

No specific details are requested in relation to software/hardware utilisation, but rather high-level causes of breaches. I believe the high-level nature of this request



does not allow for the use of s.31(1)(a) of the FOIA as this would not be likely to prejudice the security of your systems or data, as these are historical incidents which have since been dealt with. The public interest in understanding breach causes across public sector organisations outweighs the public interest in the exemption.

Formal Response

Following comprehensive searches of our incident management systems, security logs, I can confirm that:

The Trust has not experienced any cyber security breaches as defined in your request between 1 January 2020 and 30 November 2025.

This response covers malicious threat actor incidents resulting in unauthorised access to, or disclosure of, Trust data across all Trust systems and related infrastructure.

Therefore:

1. **Number of cyber security breaches (malicious threat actor):** Zero incidents
2. **Breakdown of breach causes:** Not applicable
3. **Breaches attributed to known vulnerabilities:** Not applicable
4. **Estimated costs of cyber security breaches:** Not applicable

SCOPE OF SEARCH

This response encompasses:

- All Trust IT systems and networks
- Third-party systems processing Trust data
- Reportable incidents under Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPT)
- Internal security incident records

Next steps

Some information held by the Trust is routinely published on our [website](#) and may be of assistance.

If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review.

Requests for an internal review should be submitted within **40 working days** of the date of this response and should be sent to:

Richard Banks, Head of Corporate Governance at FOI@secamb.nhs.uk



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The internal review will be conducted by an individual who was not directly involved in handling your original request, ordinarily the Trust's Data Protection Officer. We aim to complete internal reviews within **20 working days** of receipt.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of the internal review, you may complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO generally expects complaints to be raised promptly following the completion of an internal review.

The easiest way to raise a complaint is via the ICO's website:

www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints

Alternatively, you may write to:
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Corporate Governance Team

South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust



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