

Reference:	FOI.6156.21
Subject:	Information Technology infrastructure equipment
Date of Request:	4 June 2021

Requested:

I write to obtain the following information about the organisation's Information Technology infrastructure equipment:

1. What is your annual IT Budget for 2020 & 2021?

Storage:

2. What storage vendor(s) and models do you currently use?
3. What is the capacity of the storage data in TB & how much of this is utilised?
4. What were the installation dates of the above storage vendors (s)? (Month/year)
5. When is your planned (or estimated) storage refresh date? (month/year)
6. Do you have any extended warranties, if so, with which supplier?
7. What is your estimated budget for the storage refresh?

Server/Compute:

8. What server vendor(s) and models do you currently have?
9. What were the installation dates of the above server vendor(s)? (Month/year)
10. When is your planned (or estimated) server refresh date? (Month/year)
11. What is your estimated budget for the server refresh?
12. Do you have any extended warranties, if so, with which supplier?
13. Which operating systems are used?

Network & Security:

14. What network vendor(s) and models do you currently have?
15. What are the quantities of the Edge, Core and MP used in your network?
16. What network architecture is currently used?

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) confirms that its IT budget was £7,146,507.00 revenue and £4,101,815.00 capital, for the financial year 2020/21.

2. The UHB provides, within the table below, the storage vendors, currently in use across the UHB.

Storage vendor	Model
Nimble	*Section 31 exemption applied
Cloudian	

*See full exemption explanation at question 13.

3. The UHB provides, within the table below, the data storage capacity and the data utilised, in Terabytes (TB).

Storage vendor	Data capacity (TB)	Data utilised
Nimble	734	560
Cloudian	280	182

4. The UHB provides, within the table below, the installation dates of the storage vendors, by month and year.

Storage vendor	Installation date
Nimble	February 2018
Cloudian	February 2021

5. The UHB confirms that the estimated date, for additional storage capacity, is February 2022.

6. The UHB confirms that it has 24x7x365 support with Cristie data for its Cloudian and Nimble Storage Area Network (SAN).

7. The UHB confirms that the estimated budget for the additional storage capacity, is circa £100,000.00.

8. The UHB provides, within the table below, the server vendors and models, currently in use across the UHB.

Storage vendor	Model
Cisco	UCS B200
Dell	PowerEdge
Hewlett Packard (HP)	ProLiant

9. The UHB provides, within the table below, the installation dates of the server vendors, by month and year.

Storage vendor	Installation date
Cisco	February 2017 & March 2018
Dell	Not held
HP	Not held

10. The UHB confirms that there is no planned or estimated server refresh date.

11. Not applicable.

12. The UHB confirms that all its critical servers have 24x7x365 support in place.

13.-16. The UHB is unable to provide the information requested, as it has deemed that the information requested is exempt from disclosure under Section 31(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA). The UHB has also considered the “mosaic effect”; the harm which will or will be likely to arise from the release of this information, along with information already in the public domain.

Section 31(1)(a) of the FoIA provides that information which is not exempt by virtue of Section 30 (criminal investigations and proceedings) is exempt if its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. In Guidance, the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) has advised that Section 31, amongst other things, prevents information being disclosed that would increase the risk of the law being broken. In addition, it can be claimed by any public authority. The UHB is relying upon this exemption as it considers that releasing this information about its IT systems, would in the present climate, make it more vulnerable to crime.

Section 31(3) of the FoIA provides that the duty to confirm or deny does not arise in relation to this information.

Section 31 of the FoIA is subject to the public interest test.

In favour of disclosure: The UHB has a duty to maintain openness and transparency in all its activities, which will help to maintain public trust in the UHB.

In favour of non-disclosure: By releasing the information, the UHB would be vulnerable to this being used for crime, which potentially could compromise the security of both patient and staff information, whilst causing disruption to the flow of information through the UHB systems, impacting on patient care and safety. There is a clear public interest in protecting society and the UHB from the impact of crime. The UHB has given consideration to a recent cyber-attack within the NHS, which is already in the public domain.

Decision: The UHB considers that the public interest in withholding the information is greater than the interest in disclosing, therefore protecting the UHB from potential criminal activity.