



Our Ref: 001652/21

Your Ref:

Address Correspondence to: Information Management

Date 28 June 2021

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write further to your request for information received 14/05/2021.

I note you seek access to the following information:

1. *Do you have a cloud strategy? (Please provide a link to the strategy)*
 - a. *Yes*
 - b. *No*
2. *When was the cloud strategy defined?*
3. *If yes, what is the focus of your cloud strategy?*
 - a. *All in on public cloud (no private cloud or on-premise infrastructure)*
 - b. *Cloud First (new services in public cloud with some on premises infrastructure or private cloud)*
 - c. *Hybrid cloud (some combination of one or more public clouds, private cloud and on-premises)*
 - d. *Private cloud (no public cloud)*
4. *What public cloud(s) do you use?*
 - a. *AWS*
 - b. *Alibaba Cloud*
 - c. *Azure*
 - d. *Google Cloud Platform*
 - e. *Oracle Cloud*
 - f. *UK Cloud*
5. *What percentage of your applications and/or workloads is on premise?*
 - a. *0%*
 - b. *10% - 25%*
 - c. *25% - 50%*
 - d. *50% - 75%*
 - e. *100%*
6. *What percentage of your applications and/or workloads is in the public cloud?*
 - a. *0%*
 - b. *10% - 25%*
 - c. *25% - 50%*
 - d. *50% - 75%*
 - e. *100%*
7. *What percentage of your data is on premise?*
 - a. *0%*

- b. 10% - 25%
 - c. 25% - 50%
 - d. 50% - 75%
 - e. 100%
8. What percentage of your data is in the public cloud?
- a. 0%
 - b. 10% - 25%
 - c. 25% - 50%
 - d. 50% - 75%
 - e. 100%
9. What percentage of your infrastructure is legacy?
- a. 0%
 - b. 10% - 25%
 - c. 25% - 50%
 - d. 50% - 75%
 - e. 100%
10. Do you have third-party services or solutions on premise that are not cloud-ready or fit for cloud migration?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
11. What workloads or functions have you moved to the cloud? (Multiple answers. Please specify other if not listed)
- a. Office productivity (e.g. Microsoft 365, Google Workspace)
 - b. Citizen-facing digital services (e.g. GOV.UK)
 - c. Back-office applications (e.g. transaction processing)
 - d. Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, cognitive services
 - e. Software development/DevOps
 - f. Corporate functions (e.g. HR, Finance, CRM)
 - g. Intranet
 - h. Public website
 - i. Backup, business continuity and disaster recovery
 - j. Other
12. What challenges did you face when moving to the public cloud? (Multiple answers. Please specify other if not listed)
- a. Migrating certain applications
 - b. Legacy infrastructure
 - c. Different refresh cycles
 - d. Difficulty proving cost illustrations
 - e. Funding paths (Capex/Opex)
 - f. Data gravity
 - g. Data Classification
 - h. Licensing concerns
 - i. Data privacy concerns
 - j. Offshoring & data residency
 - k. Lack of in-house skills
 - l. Vendor lock-in/ Egress cost prohibitive
 - m. Other
13. What percentage of your infrastructure do you plan to be public cloud based in 12 months' time?
- a. 0%
 - b. 10% - 25%
 - c. 25% - 50%
 - d. 50% - 75%
 - e. 100%
14. What percentage of your infrastructure do you plan to be public cloud based in three years' time?
- a. 0%

- b. 10% - 25%
 - c. 25% - 50%
 - d. 50% - 75%
 - e. 100%
15. *How much has your organisation spent on public cloud since the Government's G-Cloud or 'cloud-first' policy was introduced in 2012?*
 16. *How much has your organisation spent on on-premise infrastructure since the Government's G-Cloud or 'cloud-first' policy was introduced in 2012?*
 17. *How much has your organisation spent on cloud/infrastructure consultancy services in FY 20-21?*
 18. *How much was spent on public cloud data egress charges in FY 20-21?*

Following receipt of your request, searches were conducted within Leicestershire Police to locate information relevant to your request.

Your request for information has now been considered and the information asked for is as follows: -

1. Leicestershire Police have a cloud strategy, it is however contained within a much wider strategy document.
2. As above this has been included in a much wider strategy document.
3. Leicestershire Police are focusing on hybrid cloud(s).
4. Leicestershire Police utilise Azure.
5. Between 75% and 100% of Leicestershire Police applications and/or workloads in on premises.
6. Between 10% and 25% of Leicestershire Police applications and/or workloads is in the public cloud.
7. Between 75% and 100% of Leicestershire Police data is on premises.
8. Between 10% and 25% of Leicestershire Police data is in the public cloud.
9. 10%-25% of Leicestershire Police infrastructure is legacy.
10. Yes, Leicestershire Police do not have third-party services or solutions on premises that are not cloud-ready/fit for cloud migration.
11. Leicestershire Police have moved the below to the cloud, however we can neither confirm nor deny that any further information is held relating to this question as set out below.
 - A – Office productivity
 - B – Citizen-facing digital services
 - D – Artificial intelligence
 - F – Corporate functions
 - H – Pubic website
12. Leicestershire Police face the below challenges when moving to the public cloud
 - C – Different refresh cycles
 - F – Data gravity
 - G – Data classification
 - I – Data privacy concerns
 - J – Offshoring & data residency
 - K – lack of in-house skills

13. Leicestershire Police plan to have 10%-25% of infrastructure public cloud-based in 12 months' time.
14. Leicestershire Police plan to have 25%-50% of infrastructure public cloud-based in three years' time.
15. Leicestershire Police have spent £2.2m on public cloud services since 2012.
16. Leicestershire Police have spent £4.7m on on-premises infrastructure since 2012
17. Leicestershire Police have spent £164k on cloud/infrastructure consultancy services in 2020/21.
18. Leicestershire Police have spent *ZERO* funds on public cloud data egress charges in 2020/21.

The Leicestershire Police Service can neither confirm nor deny that it holds any further information you requested as the duty in s1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not apply, by virtue of the following exemptions:

- Section 24(2) National Security;
- Section 31(3) Law enforcement;

This should not be taken as conclusive evidence that any information that would meet your request exists or does not exist.

Sections 24(2), and 31(3) are qualified and require us to carry out a harm and public interest balancing test before they can be relied upon.

Overall harm for the NCND

Modern day policing is intelligence led and law enforcement depends upon the development of intelligence and the gathering and security of evidence in order to disrupt criminal behaviour and bring offenders to justice. As criminals adapt and exploit new technology, the police need to respond by overcoming hi-tech barriers in order to meet their responsibilities. By revealing whether any other information is held in relation to cloud based data and applications that are extraction technology, will in itself be revealing tactical information which would undermine the process of preventing or detecting crime and the apprehension of prosecution of offenders.

Factors favouring confirmation or denial for S24

Confirming or denying that any other information exists relevant to the request would lead to a better informed public and the public are entitled to know how public funds are spent. The information simply relates to national security and disclosure would not actually harm it.

Factors against confirmation or denial for S24

To confirm or deny whether Leicestershire Police hold any other information would allow inferences to be made about the nature and extent of national security related activities which may or may not take place. This could enable terrorist groups to take steps to avoid detection, and as such, confirmation or denial would be damaging to national security.

By confirming or denying any policing arrangements of this nature would render national security measures less effective. This would lead to the compromise of ongoing or future operations to protect the security or infra-structure on the UK and increase the risk of harm to the public.

Factors favouring confirmation or denial for S31

Confirming or denying that Leicestershire Police holds further information would raise the general public's awareness around the full extent of policing capabilities and show responsibility to delivery of effective operational law enforcement.

Factors against confirmation or denial for S31

By confirming or denying whether further information is held could compromise Leicestershire Police's law enforcement capabilities and the effectiveness of the force will be reduced. To confirm or deny if further information is held could undermine current and/or future strategies when carrying out investigations and gathering evidence may be compromised.

The personal safety of individuals is of paramount importance to the Police Service and must be considered in response of every release. A disclosure under Freedom of Information is a release to the world and, in this case, confirming or denying if any further information is held would undermine the evidence gathering process of any investigative inquiry relating to offences, some of which may be serious cases.

Balance test

As always the Freedom of Information Act has a presumption of disclosure, unless when balancing the competing public interest factors the prejudice to the community outweighs the benefits. In this case, there is an argument for confirming or denying, inasmuch as the public have a right to know how forces deliver effective operational law enforcement, and that every effort is made to gather all relevant evidence, including where cloud based data and applications that are extraction technology are used. But this must be balanced against the negative impact these disclosures can make.

Law Enforcement is reliant on community engagement, intelligence and evidence gathering and when it is appropriate, information is given to the public. What has been established in this case is the fact that confirming or denying that any further information relating to technologies is used would be harmful and have an adverse effect on the investigative process and on the public prevention or detection of crime and the apprehension or prosecution of offenders. This places the victims of such offending at a greater risk towards their health and wellbeing and is not an action the Police Service would be willing to take. These negatives outweigh any tangible community benefit and therefore the balance does not favour disclosure at this time.

Leicestershire Police provides you the right to ask for a re-examination of your request under its review procedure. Letters should be addressed to Information Manager, Corporate Services Department at the above address. If you decide to request such a review and having followed the Force's full process you are still dissatisfied, then you have the right to direct your comments to the Information Commissioner who will give it consideration.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Officer
Leicestershire Police

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