Dear

**Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/383)**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 5 August 2021, reference K/21/383.

Your request read:

1. “What is your annual IT Budget for 2021, 2022 & 2023?

2. **Storage:**
   a. What storage vendor(s) and models do you currently use?
   b. What is the capacity of the storage data in TB & How much of this is utilised?
   c. What were the installation dates of the above storage vendor(s)? (Month/Year)
   d. When is your planned (or estimated) storage refresh date? (Month/Year)?
   e. Do you have any extended warranties, if so, with which supplier?
   f. What is your estimated budget for the storage refresh?

3. **Server/Compute:**
   a. What server vendor(s) and models do you currently use?
   b. What were the installation dates of the above server vendor(s)? (Month/Year)
   c. When is your planned (or estimated) server refresh date? (Month/Year)
   d. What is your estimated budget for the server refresh?
   e. Do you have any extended warranties, if so, with which supplier?
   f. Which operating systems are used?

4. **Backup, DR and BC:**
   a. What device/system do you use for your daily backups (e.g tape or disk)
   b. What backup software do you use?
   c. How much data do you backup, in TB?
   d. Do you use a third party to provide a Business Continuity service (e.g. office workplace recovery or infrastructure ship-to-site solutions)?
   e. Does your current recovery solution meet your stakeholder’s RTO/RPO expectations?
   f. Do you already backup into the cloud?
   g. Do you have a documented disaster recovery & business continuity plan in place?

5. **Number of Physical servers?**
6. Number of virtualised servers? & Which Virtualisation platform do you use?

7. Security:
   a. What security solutions are being utilised?
   b. Do you have a SIEM?
   c. Do you have a SOC? If so, is it in house or outsourced?
   d. Is it 24/7?
   e. Name and role for IT Manager(s) / Officer(s) primarily responsible for cybersecurity
   f. Names of all cyber security vendor(s) you use
   g. Cost, duration and end date for the above contract(s)/license(s)

8. How far are you in your cloud strategy?
   A. Not considering Cloud for the foreseeable future
   B. Interested in Cloud, but have not started looking into it
   C. Research Stage
   D. Meeting with Suppliers
   E. Consultancy
   F. Started to integrate
   G. Fully integrated

9. Which public cloud provider do you use?

10. Which IT services do you outsource? When do the contracts end?

11. Please also name all of the IT re-sellers that you work with and buy from, as well as the frameworks utilised.

12. Are you actively moving any applications/infrastructure into a cloud environment? If so who is responsible for this?

13. Do you normally purchase equipment and services as a capital investment (Cap-Ex) or ongoing operational charges (Opex)?

The University of Leeds holds some of this information. For your convenience we have responded to each of your questions in turn below.

What is your annual IT Budget for 2021, 2022 & 2023?

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<th>2021/22</th>
<th>2022/21</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenditure (£k)</strong></td>
<td>£35,782.63</td>
<td>39,538.79</td>
<td>41,328.41</td>
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What storage vendor(s) and models do you currently use?
Primary vendors are Dell (Isilon/Powerscale) and NetApp (FAS and AFF series)
What is the capacity of the storage data in TB & How much of this is utilised?
Not completely known owing to fragmented estate, circa 12Pb in use.

What were the installation dates of the above storage vendor(s)? (Month/Year)
- Dell - ongoing/commissioning
- NetApp - August 2018; April 2019; May 2020; November 2020 and September 2021

When is your planned (or estimated) storage refresh date? (Month/Year)?
Ongoing staggered rollover rather than bulk refreshes

Do you have any extended warranties, if so, with which supplier?
Yes, with Dell and with Trustmarque

What is your estimated budget for the storage refresh?
We do not have an estimated budget for the storage refresh.

What server vendor(s) and models do you currently use?
Dell, Cisco UCS, Oracle

What were the installation dates of the above server vendor(s)? (Month/Year)
More than 4 years ago

When is your planned (or estimated) server refresh date? (Month/Year)
None; we are moving to cloud-based provision

What is your estimated budget for the server refresh?
Not applicable

Do you have any extended warranties, if so, with which supplier?
Dell and Oracle

Which operating systems are used?
Windows 2008 up to 2019, Red Hat and Centos, some Solaris

What device/system do you use for your daily backups (e.g tape or disk)
Disk

What backup software do you use?
Commvault Simpana

How much data do you backup, in TB?
~200TB

Do you use a third party to provide a Business Continuity service (e.g. office workplace recovery or infrastructure ship-to-site solutions)?
Yes
Does your current recovery solution meet your stakeholder’s RTO/RPO expectations?
At present stakeholder RTO/RPO expectations have not been clearly identified, work is underway to rectify this situation.

Do you already backup into the cloud?
Yes

Do you have a documented disaster recovery & business continuity plan in place?
While critical incident management plans are in place they do not fully articulate the disaster recovery and business continuity plan

Number of Physical servers?
1300

Number of virtualised servers? & Which Virtualisation platform do you use?
700. HyperV, Solaris Zones and VMWare

What security solutions are being utilised?
We are not clear what specific information you are requesting here. If you are able to be more specific about the information you are seeking, we may be able to provide further information.

Do you have a SIEM?
Yes

Do you have a SOC? If so, is it in house or outsourced?
Yes, currently in house.

Is it 24/7?
Not currently

Name and role for IT Manager(s) / Officer(s) primarily responsible for cybersecurity
Dr Philip Hobley, IT Assurance manager

Names of all cyber security vendor(s) you use
Cost, duration and end date for the above contract(s)/license(s)
We address these questions together.

We consider that these details are exempt from disclosure under section 31(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act.

Section 31(1)(a) sets out that information is exempt from disclosure if its release would or would be likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime.

To reveal the information regarding the cyber-security arrangements we have in place, would provide would-be or attempted attackers with information regarding our cyber-defence provision. Revealing the name of the vendor and the contract value
would indicate the type of protection which is in place, and to reveal the duration and contract end date provides those with nefarious intentions with a timeframe in which the University may be particularly vulnerable to attack (i.e. during transition from one provider to another).

Section 31(1)(a) is a qualified exemption. This means that the University of Leeds is required to consider whether the public interest in the information outweighs the public interest in maintaining the exemption.

There is clearly a very strong public interest in protecting public authorities from crime. To release information which increases the University's vulnerability to cyber-crime would jeopardise our ability to provide services to our students (current, former and potential), and would put at risk personal, financial and commercial sensitive information. We therefore consider that there is a very strong public interest in maintaining the exemption. Conversely, we do not consider there to be any particular public interest in the disclosure of this information. While it is important for students and the public to understand that the University takes the threat of cyber-crime seriously, and are taking appropriate measures to tackle it, we do not consider that this interest would be furthered by the release of this information.

We therefore consider that the public interest is firmly in favour of withholding the information in this case.

**How far are you in your cloud strategy?**
Started to integrate

**Which public cloud provider do you use?**
MS Azure

**Which IT services do you outsource? When do the contracts end?**
We are not clear what you define as “IT services”. A wide range of contracts relating to different IT solutions are in place, some of which are partially outsourced. If you are able to be more specific about the information you are requesting, we may be able to provide further information. Please note that the broader your question, the more likely it is that we will need to refuse the request under section 12(1) of the FOI Act.

**Please also name all of the IT re-sellers that you work with and buy from, as well as the frameworks utilised.**

- **ITRAP Framework**
  - Academia
  - Insight Direct
  - Softcat
  - XMA
- **SUPC Software Resellers Framework**
  - Softcat
  - Phoenix Software
- **Apple equipment and Services Framework**
  - Academia
  - Stone Computers
Insight
  o XMA
• National Desktop & Notebook Framework
  o Stone computers

Are you actively moving any applications/infrastructure into a cloud environment? If so who is responsible for this?
Yes, a number of applications and infrastructure are being moved into the cloud. Responsibility for the decisions on what to migrate, how to do this and who to work with is spread across a wide range of people within both IT and the wider University.

Do you normally purchase equipment and services as a capital investment (Cap-Ex) or ongoing operational charges (Opex)
Equipment which is equal to or greater than £25k is recognised as capital expenditure, items less than this are ongoing operational charges.

We hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions about this email, however, please do not hesitate to contact us on foi@leeds.ac.uk

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you can request an Internal Review. Requests for Internal Review should be made in writing using the following contact information:

Post: Mr D Wardle
       Deputy Secretary
       The University of Leeds
       Leeds
       LS2 9JT

Email: foi@leeds.ac.uk

Requests for Internal Review should be submitted within 40 working days of receiving the University’s response to your request. Further information about how the University manages Freedom of Information requests and about our complaints procedure is also available on our website (www.leeds.ac.uk).

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the review/complaints procedure provided by the University. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Chloe Wilkins
Freedom of Information Officer

Secretariat
University of Leeds