

By email to: [REDACTED]

Human Tissue Authority

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Date: 19 May 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act

Thank you for your email into the Human Tissue Authority (HTA) dated 23 April 2025 for which we gave the case reference number: [REDACTED]. Your email has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("**FOIA**").

Your email outlined the following request ("**your Request**"):

"Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide the following information about your procurement of any

- (i) external Data Protection Officer (DPO),*
- (ii) Data protection GDPR compliance services for the period FY2022-23 to FY2024-25:*

1. Current DPO arrangements

1.1 Is the organisation's DPO and other staff that work on data protection compliance:

- (a) An internal employee*
- (b) A DPO provided by an external service provider*
- (c) Hybrid (internal staff with external service provider support)*

1.2 Where services are provided by external providers, please share the following information:

- (a) The Company name(s)*
- (b) Annual spend by your organisation (FY2022/2023 through to FY2024/2025)*
- (c) The highest day rate paid*
- (d) Contract dates (start/end/renewal terms)*
- (e) A brief description of the project or services provided (for instance, project title or internal reference)*
- (f) Services covered (e.g., audits, breach management, SAR management, delivery of DPIAs)*

- Please indicate what deliverables were produced
- Procurement method (e.g., open competition, framework agreement, direct award) and name of the procurement framework, if applicable.

2. Consultancy Spend

2.1 What is the organisation's, total annual expenditure on data protection/GDPR consultancy services?

2.2 For SoW/projects which have a spend of more than £5k, please share the following information:

- Supplier company name
 - The scope of the Project (e.g., "ICO investigation support", DPIA support, Internal Audit recommendation support)
 - Spend
 - Procurement method
3. Data Protection Compliance staffing

3.1 The Number of in-house data protection staff in the organisation? (FTE)

3.2 Are there any vacant roles? (Yes/No)

3.3 Where there any ICO investigations, audits, or enforcement actions for the period from FY2022/2023 to FY 2024/2025?

4. Future Plans

4.1 Is your organisation planning to put out to tender for any DPO/GDPR services in the current financial year?

4.2 If yes please provide the following:

Expected timeline

Budget range

Key service requirements

Procurement method."

Response

"Please see the answers to your questions below:

1. Current DPO arrangements

1.1 Is the organisation's DPO and other staff that work on data protection compliance:

(a) An internal employee - Yes

2. Consultancy Spend

2.1 What is the organisation's, total annual expenditure on data protection/GDPR consultancy services? - £0

3.1 The Number of in-house data protection staff in the organisation? (FTE) - 1

3.2 Are there any vacant roles? (Yes/No) - No

3.3 Where there any ICO investigations, audits, or enforcement actions for the period

from FY2022/2023 to FY 2024/2025? – No

4. Future Plans

4.1 Is your organisation planning to put out to tender for any DPO/GDPR services in the current financial year? – No”

Further information

We hope you found the above response to your Request clear and helpful. If you are unhappy with the way the HTA has handled your request for information in this case, or if you disagree with how we have interpreted FOIA in answering your Request, you may in the first instance ask us for an internal review by writing to us at the above postal or email address, within two months of this reply, specifying that you would like an Internal Review to be carried out.

Any internal review of the HTA’s handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response.

Please remember to quote the case reference number above in any future communications.

If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you have the right to appeal directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision, at the address below. There is no charge for making an appeal.

Information Commissioner’s Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 08456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45
Website: www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

