

By email to: [REDACTED]

Human Tissue Authority
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Email enquiries@hta.gov.uk
Date 23 October 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), which was received by the Human Tissue Authority (HTA) on 30 September 2020. Your email outlined the following request:

Definition of a legacy system or legacy applications in this inquiry:

“A legacy system or application, in the context of computing, refers to computer systems, programming languages or application software that are used instead of available contemporary alternatives e.g. cloud. It also may be associated with terminology or processes that are no longer applicable to current contexts or content, thus creating confusion.”

1. What approximate percentage of your IT services and infrastructure is in the cloud today? [Select one answer only]

- 0-10%
- 11-20%
- 21-30%
- 31-40%
- 41-50%
- 51-60%
- 61-70%
- 71-80%
- 81-90%
- 91-100%

2. And what is a realistic, achievable target of migrating legacy applications to the cloud over the next 3 years? [Select one answer only]

- 0-10%
- 11-20%
- 21-30%
- 31-40%
- 41-50%
- 51-60%
- 61-70%
- 71-80%
- 81-90%
- 91-100%

3. Approximately what volume of data is held in legacy systems? [Select one answer only]

- 0 – 10 Terabytes (TB)
- 11 – 50TB
- 51 – 100TB
- 101 - 500TB
- 500TB+

4. What are your organisation's/department's top five priority reasons for migrating to the cloud and enhancing your data strategy? Cross [x] up to five answers that apply best to your current situation:

- Data security and compliance []
- Improved services and functionality (both internally and for citizens) []
- Improved operating-cost control and flexibility of service []
- Cheaper data storage []
- Improved data and service access for remote workers []
- Reduced admin []
- Service providers help share the load in managing the infrastructure []
- Improved organisational agility []
- Improved insights and opportunities for gathering data []
- Improved testing environments for app/service development []
- Faster implementation and time-to-value/service (i.e. can roll things out faster) []
- Easier to stay up-to-date with latest technologies []

Other(s), please
specify: _____.

5. Which are the biggest challenges you face in implementing your IT strategy?

Cross [x] up to five answers that apply best to your current situation:

- Estimating potential lifetime costs and making the case for investment in modern IT solutions [☐]
- Moving vital data and applications from legacy systems to modern architectures without service interruption [☐]
- Lack of an overall/clearly defined strategy [☐]
- Change management [☐]
- Our IT budgets mean we have to upgrade systems in a piecemeal fashion – i.e. one instance at a time [☐]
- Culture change [☐]
- Education / knowledge of available solutions and services [☐]
- Skills shortage (for installing & utilising new systems) [☐]
- Knowing where to use public, private, or hybrid cloud services [☐]
- Vendor lock-in from long-term, existing contracts [☐]
- Fear of future technical or commercial vendor lock-in from new contracts [☐]
- Procurement processes [☐]
- Length of migration process of IT systems [☐]

Other(s), please
specify: _____.

Response

1. What approximate percentage of your IT services and infrastructure is in the cloud today? [Select one answer only]

- 51-60%

2. And what is a realistic, achievable target of migrating legacy applications to the cloud over the next 3years? [Select one answer only]

- 81-90%

3. Approximately what volume of data is held in legacy systems? [Select one answer only]

- 0 – 10 Terabytes (TB)

4. What are your organisation's/department's top five priority reasons for migrating to the cloud and enhancing your data strategy? Cross [x] up to five answers that apply best to your current situation:

- Data security and compliance [x]
- Improved services and functionality (both internally and for citizens) [x]
- Improved data and service access for remote workers [x]
- Improved organisational agility [x]
- Improved insights and opportunities for gathering data [x]

5. Which are the biggest challenges you face in implementing your IT strategy? Cross [x] up to five answers that apply best to your current situation:

- Moving vital data and applications from legacy systems to modern architectures without service interruption [x]
- Skills shortage (for installing & utilising new systems) [x]

Further information

If you are unhappy with the way the HTA has handled your request for information in this case, you may in the first instance ask us for an internal review by writing to us at the above postal or email address.

If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, 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

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