

**HOUSE OF LORDS
APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION**

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Ref: HOLAC FOI 2021/10

23 December 2021

By email: <REDACTED>

Freedom of Information Act

I am replying to your Freedom of Information request, which the House of Lords Appointments Commission (HOLAC) received on 29 November 2021.

You asked:

1. *Do you have a formal IT security strategy? (Please provide a link to the strategy)*

- A) Yes
- B) No

2. *Does this strategy specifically address the monitoring of network attached device configurations to identify any malicious or non-malicious change to the device configuration?*

- A) Yes
- B) No
- C) Don't know

3. *If yes to Question 2, how do you manage this identification process – is it:*

- A) *Totally automated – all configuration changes are identified and flagged without manual intervention.*
- B) *Semi-automated – it's a mixture of manual processes and tools that help track and identify configuration changes.*
- C) *Mainly manual – most elements of the identification of configuration changes are manual.*

4. *Have you ever encountered a situation where user services have been disrupted due to an accidental/non malicious change that had been made to a device configuration?*

- A) Yes
- B) No
- C) Don't know

5. *If a piece of malware was maliciously uploaded to a device on your network, how quickly do you think it would be identified and isolated?*

- A) *Immediately*
- B) *Within days*
- C) *Within weeks*
- D) *Not sure*

6. *How many devices do you have attached to your network that require monitoring?*

- A) *Physical Servers: record number*
- B) *PC's & Notebooks: record number*

7. *Have you ever discovered devices attached to the network that you weren't previously aware of?*

- A) Yes
- B) No

If yes, how do you manage this identification process – is it:

- A) *Totally automated – all device configuration changes are identified and flagged without manual intervention.*
- B) *Semi-automated – it's a mixture of manual processes and tools that help track and identify unplanned device configuration changes.*
- C) *Mainly manual – most elements of the identification of unexpected device configuration changes are manual.*

8. *How many physical devices (IP's) do you have attached to your network that require monitoring for configuration vulnerabilities?*

Record Number:

9. *Have you suffered any external security attacks that have used malware on a network attached device to help breach your security measures?*

- A) *Never*
- B) *Not in the last 1-12 months*
- C) *Not in the last 12-36 months*

10. *Have you ever experienced service disruption to users due to an accidental, non-malicious change being made to device configurations?*

- A) *Never*
- B) *Not in the last 1-12 months*

C) *Not in the last 12-36 months*

11. *When a scheduled audit takes place for the likes of PSN or Cyber Essentials, how likely are you to get significant numbers of audit fails relating to the status of the IT infrastructure?*

- A) *Never*
- B) *Occasionally*
- C) *Frequently*
- D) *Always*

Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) and following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that HOLAC does not hold the information you requested.

HOLAC does not have direct responsibility for the provision of its IT and software services. The IT systems used by the Secretariat supporting the Commission are provided by the Cabinet Office. Should you wish to ask the Cabinet Office about its IT and software services, you can do so by contacting the FOI Team at:

foi-team@cabinetoffice.gov.uk or

FOI Team
Cabinet Office
Room 3.32
1 Horse Guards Road
London SW1A 2HQ

If you are unhappy with this response to your request, you may write to the Secretary to the Commission, Helen Ewen, to ask for an internal review by another person not involved with this request. Please note that we will not normally accept an application for internal review if it is received more than two months after the date that the reply was issued.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by HOLAC.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5AF

Secretariat to the House of Lords Appointments Commission