

19 August 2022

## **Internal Plans and Strategy Documents around ICT**

**Internal plans and strategy documents around ICT. I wish to obtain the following documents (most recent update):**

- 1. ICT/IM&T/IS Strategy - The IT Department strategy or plans, highlights their current and future objectives.**

Digital Strategy 2020 - 2025 included in separate document. Some information has been redacted on the basis of cyber security under the Freedom of Information Act exemptions Section 31 – Law Enforcement and Section 43 – Commercial Interests (see detail below).

- 2. ICT Org Chart - A visual document that presents the structure of the IT department, please include name and job titles. If this cannot be sent, please work towards a structure with job titles.**

Digital Services Senior Leadership Team chart included in separate document. Information below this level withheld on the basis of cyber security under the Freedom of Information Act exemptions; Section 31 – Law Enforcement and Section 43 – Commercial Interests (see detail below).

- 3. ICT Annual or Business Plan - like the ICT strategy but is more annually focused.**

ICT Programme information withheld on the basis of cyber security under the Freedom of Information Act exemptions Section 31 – Law Enforcement and Section 43 – Commercial Interests (see detail below).

- 4. ICT Capital Programme/Budget - a document that shows financials budget on current and future projects.**

Capital allocation for 2022/2023 is £5,518,705. Detailed breakdown withheld on the basis of cyber security under the Freedom of Information Act exemptions Section 31 – Law Enforcement and Section 43 – Commercial Interests (see detail below).

### **Section 31 – Law Enforcement**

**Section 31(1)(a)** states that information is exempt if its disclosure is likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) guidance states that this can be used to protect information on a public authority's systems, which would make it more vulnerable to crime.

It can be used by a public authority that has no law enforcement function:

- To protect the work of one that does
- To withhold information that would make anyone, including the public authority itself, more vulnerable to crime

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**Section 43 – Commercial Interests**

**Section 43(2)** states that information is exempt if its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it). Disclosure of the requested information would leave Belfast Trust's digital infrastructure at significant risk of cyber security attack. This would compromise Belfast Trusts ability to provide Health and Care Services and carry on business-as-usual should the digital systems be compromised.

Both of these exemptions are Qualified Exemptions and are therefore subject to a Public Interest Test (PIT). I can confirm that we have now carried out a PIT and the outcome is to maintain both exemptions and withhold the information from release.