



Department of Health

22 March 2017

FOI 1075690

Dear Mr Griffin,

Thank you for your request of 23 February 2017 under the Freedom of Information Act (2000). Your exact request was:

“Please could you give me the following information:-

1) How many claims for Vaccine Damage Compensation have been made in the last 10 years?

2) How many of these claims were successful?”

I can confirm that the Department holds the information you requested.

I would like to clarify that the Vaccine Damage Payment Scheme (VDPS) is not a compensation scheme, and was never intended by Parliament to be such. It provides a one off, tax-free, lump sum payment of £120,000 for those who are severely disabled as a result of a vaccination against those diseases listed in the Vaccine Damage Payments Act 1979 and those diseases that have been specified since 1979 by statutory instrument.

From 2007/08 to 31 January 2017, there have been a total of 759 claims and 11 awards made. It should be noted that an award might be made in a different year to that which the claim was made.

Please note that the Department for Work and Pensions is responsible for administering the VDPS. If you require further information regarding VDPS claims and awards, you may wish to contact DWP directly. Their contact details are as follows:

freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

If you have any queries about this email, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not satisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Head of the Freedom of Information Team
Department of Health
G18
Richmond House
79 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2NS

Email: freedomofinformation@dh.gsi.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Department. The ICO can be contacted at:

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

Yours sincerely,

Dorothy Crowe

Freedom of Information Officer
Department of Health

freedomofinformation@dh.gsi.gov.uk