



Immigration
Enforcement

Immigration Enforcement
Secretariat
Sandford House
41 Homer Road
Solihull
B91 3QJ

M Esslemont
[request-681483-
f9adbba2@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-681483-f9adbba2@whatdotheyknow.com)

www.gov.uk/home-office

Wednesday 2 September 2020

Dear Ms Esslemont,

Re: Freedom of Information request – 59909

Thank you for your email of 12 August concerning Adults at Risk (AAR) in detention. Your request, which is set out in full in the enclosed annex, is being handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Under section 12 of the FOIA, the Home Office is not obliged to comply with an information request where to do so would exceed the cost limit.

We do record the fact that a person in detention has been recognised as an AAR. The level at which that risk has been assessed is also recorded and these are in a reportable format and it might be possible to provide you with this information. However, the reasons for the assessment are only recorded in freeform notes fields and would need to be manually sorted in order to match the criteria you have requested. In addition to this you have asked that those who have not been recognised as an AAR but who may have made a threat of self-harm, died or attempted suicide are also included in the figures.

The information you have requested could only be obtained by manually examining individual case records. In the period you have stipulated in excess of 20,000 people entered immigration detention in the UK and your request would require an inspection of each case. We have therefore estimated that the cost of meeting your request would far exceed the cost limit of £600 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. We are therefore unable to comply with it.

The £600 limit is based on work being carried out at a rate of £25 per hour, which equates to 24 hours of work per request. The cost of locating, retrieving and extracting information can be included in the costs for these purposes. The costs do not include considering whether any information is exempt from disclosure, overheads such as heating or lighting, or items such as photocopying or postage.

Even if you were to break your request down into smaller time periods it is still possible that each one could exceed the cost limit. You should also be aware that if you were to submit a series of such smaller requests, we may refuse to provide the information if the total costs of doing so exceeded the limit. It might be possible to provide aggregate figures for the cost of flights and/or voluntary repatriations if submitted as separate requests.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to foirequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk, quoting reference **59909**. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request would be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you were to remain dissatisfied after an internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the FOIA.

Yours sincerely,

Immigration Enforcement Secretariat
ImmigrationEnforcementFOIPQ@HomeOffice.gov.uk

Re: Freedom of Information request – 59909

Annex

From: M Esslemont <request-681483-f9adbba2@whatdotheyknow.com>
Sent: 12 August 2020 18:04
To: DS FOI <DSFOI@homeoffice.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Response FOI 59755

Dear DS FOI,

On 11 August you submitted the following understanding of my request, as part of a request for clarification:

"the number of people who were logged on the Home Office Case Information Database (CID) as an Adult At Risk between the period of 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020 and were also recorded as having made a threat of self-harm, having made a known suicide attempt or have been recorded as a death in detention."

This is partially correct. I have requested this data be provided in a disaggregated form, according to AAR level (e.g. "1", "2", "3"), each separate "type" of requested vulnerability ("death", "suicide attempt", "threat of self-harm"). I have requested **all** data on AAR levels and the outlined vulnerability 'types', so it is noted that some individuals may have made a threat of self-harm, died or attempted suicide but not be represented as an AAR - these should also be included in the figures.

Please also note that the requested time period refers to individuals' presence in detention, not the date that a new entry may have been added to the CID. For example, an individual logged on the CID in 2016 as an asylum seeker, who was detained at any point between April 2019 - March 2020, should be represented in the requested figure.

Yours sincerely,
M Esslemont