



Department
of Health &
Social Care

Freedom of Information Team
Department of Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0EU

www.gov.uk/dhsc

Ms Joy Warren

By email: request-913651-2fdd855a@whatdotheyknow.com

24 November 2022

Dear Ms Warren,

Freedom of Information Request Reference FOI-1424822

Thank you for your request dated 3 October to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), a copy of which can be found in the accompanying annex.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

DHSC does not hold information relevant to your request.

The Department has not completed an Environment Risk Assessment, Health Risk Assessment or Cost Analysis in relation to the proposed expansion of water fluoridation for the North-East of England. A public consultation on the proposals will take place in accordance with the Water Fluoridation (Consultation) (England) Regulations 2022 in 2023, although the exact date has not yet been set. When launched, the consultation will provide information to ensure respondents sufficiently understand the context and impacts of the water fluoridation proposals.

If you are not satisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to appeal by asking for an internal review. This should be sent to freedomofinformation@dhsc.gov.uk or to the address at the top of this letter and be submitted within two months of the date of this letter.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communication.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may complain directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have already appealed our original response and received our internal review decision. You should raise your concerns with the ICO within three months of your last meaningful contact with us.

Guidance on contacting the ICO can be found at <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us> and information about making a complaint can be found at <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint>.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team
freedomofinformation@dhsc.gov.uk

Annex

From: Joy Warren <request-913651-2fdd855a@whatdotheyknow.com>
Sent: 03 November 2022 16:30
To: FreedomofInformation <freedomofinformation@dhsc.gov.uk>
Subject: Freedom of Information request - Water Fluoridation: Risk Analysis, Cost Analysis, Health Analysis

[You don't often get email from request-913651-2fdd855a@whatdotheyknow.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Department of Health and Social Care,

On 7th March 2022, Earl Howe (Minister for Health) on winding up a debate on the Water Fluoridation clauses in the Health and Care Bill 2021-2, stated:

“Finally, any future public consultation on expansion would also include information on the impact of any proposals on health, the environment and cost-benefit analysis.”

<https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fhansard.parliament.uk%2FLords%2F2022-03-07%2Fdebates%2F94E636CE-A4D1-4380-940F-277A&data=05%7C01%7Cdhmail%40dhsc.gov.uk%7Ca7fb7799c95c4edfbacb08dabdbaac8c%7C61278c3091a84c318c1fef4de8973a1c%7C1%7C0%7C638030906693455323%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6I k1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sd=9LDA%2Fsmsl3x79YgWt30DMeEejTM5CG3W6MBnYQW222Y%3D&reserved=0>

62CCB199/HealthAndCareBill#contribution-A20F1C68-BE6F-4D43-AC42-18C668F54B81

Bitly:

<https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fbitly.ws%2Fp6Cwin&data=05%7C01%7Cdhmail%40dhsc.gov.uk%7Ca7fb7799c95c4edfbacb08dabdbaac8c%7C61278c3091a84c318c1fef4de8973a1c%7C1%7C0%7C638030906693455323%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6I k1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sd=9LDA%2Fsmsl3x79YgWt30DMeEejTM5CG3W6MBnYQW222Y%3D&reserved=0>

A Public Consultation on Water Fluoridation has been announced for the North-East of England, presumably to begin in the New Year (2023). There are two months remaining of 2022 so an Environment Risk Assessment, a Health Risk Assessment and a Cost Analysis should be well under way, if not complete.

Please let me see these assessments and cost analysis if completed. If not completed, please let me know the expected date of publication.

Yours faithfully,

Joy Warren