



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 Linda Birr-Pixton

By email to: request-1174904-d2e6fc19@whatdotheyknow.com

10 October 2024

Dear Ms Birr-Pixton,

Freedom of Information Request Reference FOI-1532183

Thank you for your request dated 14 September 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).

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) delivers research on behalf of DHSC. DHSC is data controller for information held by the NIHR, and so the following response is on behalf of DHSC and the NIHR.

DHSC does not hold information relevant to your request. The NIHR does not engage in any pre-human research and development, so is not involved in any research involving animals or animal tissue at any stage.

You may be aware that the use of animals in experiments and testing is regulated under the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 (ASPA). A section of the Home Office (The Animals in Science Regulation Unit) is responsible for administration and enforcement of ASPA. More information about that unit is available at the following link:

[Animals in Science Regulation Unit - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk/animals-in-science-regulation-unit)

If you should wish to submit a request under the FOIA to the Home Office, it can be contacted at: foirequests@homeoffice.gov.uk

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: Linda Birr-Pixton <request-1174904-d2e6fc19@whatdotheyknow.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 14, 2024 8:36 AM
To: FreedomofInformation <freedomofinformation@dhsc.gov.uk>
Subject: Freedom of Information request - Animals containing human material

Dear Department of Health and Social Care,

On what basis has the use of animals containing human material developed with regard to the human brain here in the UK using animals under a regulatory framework?

Can you refer me to the benefits accrued and your publication of such data and information from this research given the public are particularly sensitive to research in this area?

How is this work inspected and monitored by the Department for Health and Social Care?

Yours faithfully,
Linda Birr-Pixton