



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 Zoe Tarimo

By email to: request-1102527-78ba7c2d@whatdotheyknow.com

11 April 2024

Dear Ms Tarimo,

Freedom of Information Request Reference FOI-1500750

Thank you for your request dated 12 March 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).

For the purposes of replying to your request, we have interpreted your questions as relating solely to sex offenders held in prisons or Young Offenders Institutions or transferred to secure hospital accommodation.

DHSC does not hold information relevant to your request. This is because we are not the appropriate public authority to contact on this subject.

However, you may wish to contact the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) as it has policy responsibility for prison services and may hold information relevant to your request.

Contact details for the MoJ are available at: [Ministry of Justice - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk).

HM Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) is responsible for the operation of prisons and may hold information relevant to your request.

Contact details for HMPPS are available at: [HM Prison and Probation Service - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk).

You may also wish to contact NHS England (NHSE) as it is responsible for commissioning healthcare services across the prisons estate.

Contact details for NHSE are available at: [NHS England » Contact NHS England](https://www.nhs.uk).

We have additional information which we are providing to you on a discretionary basis. This is outside the scope of the FOIA and not subject to internal review.

As part of an update to the National Oversight Group for high secure services, the Royal College of Psychiatrists shared findings from its National Clinical Audit of Anti-Libidinal

Medication Prescribing Practice and its report is available at: [The Prescribing Observatory for Mental Health \(POMH-UK\) \(rcpsych.ac.uk\)](#).

If you are not satisfied with the handling of this 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: Zoe Tarimo <request-1102527-78ba7c2d@whatdotheyknow.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 3:35 PM

To: FreedomofInformation <freedomofinformation@dhsc.gov.uk>

Subject: Freedom of Information request - Anti-libidinal interventions in sex offenders

Dear Department of Health and Social Care,

I am a current masters student in criminal justice policy and I am undertaking a research project on the use of anti-libidinal interventions (chemical castration) for convicted sex offenders within the UK.

I would interested to find out the following information:

1. As of 2020, what is the current official policy in relation providing anti-libidinal interventions to convicted sex offenders?
2. Does there exist a set programme for anti-libidinal interventions within prisons?
3. Which UK prisons offer anti-libidinal interventions to convicted sex offenders?
4. How many prisoners have volunteered for anti-libidinal interventions?
5. How many offenders in prison or detention under the Mental Health Act 1983 have received anti-libidinal interventions ?
6. Are anti-libidinal interventions coupled with cognitive-behavioural therapy, and if yes, is this a requirement throughout the prisons ?

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours faithfully,

Zoe Tarimo