



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 Charlotte Peters Rock

By email to: request-873571-52ca4815@whatdotheyknow.com

17 August 2022

Dear Ms Peters Rock,

Freedom of Information Request Reference FOI-1413007

Thank you for your request dated 21 July 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). As mentioned in our previous response to you (our ref: FOI-1412005), DHSC does not hold the information you have requested. The Public Records Act 1958 requires central government departments to identify records of historical value and transfer them for permanent preservation to The National Archives (TNA), or to another appointed place of deposit, by the time they are 20 years old.

DHSC did not exist in 1948, and so you may wish to contact TNA who might hold this information. Should you wish to do so, TNA can be contacted at:
<https://www.nationalarchives.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

'Dear Department of Health and Social Care,

Freedom of Information Request Reference FOI-1410025

Subject:

Re: Freedom of Information request - Arrangements made by Secretary of State for Health to safeguard Knutsford& District War Memorial

Dear Team,

Thank you for your response. However, the statedly 'responsible person' in respect of the setting up of the National Health Service and the taking of Cottage Hospitals into that service, is The Secretary of State for Health'.

Perhaps, if you are unable to aid me in accessing the record from the time when the NHS, in a tightly organised Leasehold agreement which donated £275,000 to British Red Cross, under tightly terms about its 'acceptance of provision of local Health services on behalf of the NHS' under various contracts, then this matter can be viewed from the opposite end, when the NHS - via Secretary of State for Health - first took over Knutsford and District Cottage Hospital on 05 July 1948?

It was under the 1946 NHS Act, executed in respect of Cottage Hospitals on 05 July 1948, that Knutsford and District War Memorial (stated and written 'primary purpose' of both the gift of land and of the building built on that land by local residents) was, because it was built in the style of a Cottage Hospital, taken into the NHS.

There are exceptions within the 1946 NHS Act, which clearly show that where any Cottage Hospital had been or was continuing to be, used also for other purposes, those purposes should be worked around wherever possible.

In the case of Knutsford and District War Memorial, that has meant, that having opened on 02 August 1922, we are currently coming up to the Centennial date of 02 August 2022 - when the War Memorial doors were first officially opened, with an unbroken line of one century of Official and other Remembrance - with Annual Parades, and Remembrance Services and wreath laying by many local organisations, including the NHS - having taken place on that site.

This makes it obvious that an exception WAS made. What I therefore seem to need, is a copy of the original documents which show

- 1. who made that exception,*
- 2. when it was made,*
- 3. why it was made,*

4. to whose benefit it was made,

5. together with any other information which might aid my request.

If I go back again now, to what was South and East Cheshire Health Authority, then Cheshire East Clinical Commissioning Group, which then moved on to be Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group, and has I understand now moved again to be Merseyside Regional 'something or other', they will of course deny all knowledge, as did NHS Properties, and East Cheshire NHS Hospital Trust, when I approached them.

This is a matter of official record. I would be grateful to be supplied with the information requested, about the exception made in this particular case, why it was made, when it was made, by whom it was made and to whose benefit it was made. It will be a part of the official record, and that record lies with Department of

Health/Secretary of State for Health. I would be grateful if you could source it, and send it to me.

Thanks for your kind attention.

Charlotte Peters Rock'