



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

Mr Rowan Braithwaite

By email to: request-1019892-c69e47fc@whatdotheyknow.com

27 September 2023

Dear Mr Braithwaite,

Freedom of Information Request Reference FOI- 1468205

Thank you for your request dated 30 August 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 the information you have requested. However, you may wish to contact the UK Health Security Agency, as it may have the information you have requested. They can be contacted via this email address InformationRights@UKHSA.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: Rowan Braithwaite <request-1019892-c69e47fc@whatdotheyknow.com>

Sent: 30 August 2023 12:38

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

Subject: Freedom of Information request - Avoidable or unavoidable harms of covid-19

[You don't often get email from request-1019892-c69e47fc@whatdotheyknow.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Department of Health and Social Care,

1. Please provide all/any information and documents that refer, relate to, indicate a tendency to or show that:

i. Infection with the SARS-CoV-2 virus is/was (a) an avoidable, or, (b) unavoidable, harm within the meanings given in the Health and Social Care Act 2008 ("HSCA 2008").

ii. The harms caused by the disease generally known as "covid-19" were (a) avoidable, or, (b) unavoidable, harms within the meanings given in the HSCA 2008.

2 . If the harms caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus and/or covid-19 disease are/were deemed avoidable harms, please provide all/any information/documents that evidence that such harms were avoidable within the meanings given in the HSCA 2008.

Yours faithfully,

Rowan Braithwaite