



Department of Health

11 July 2016

FOI-1040077/ FOI-1040078/ FOI-1040079/ FOI-1040080/ FOI-1040081/ FOI-1040082/ FOI 1040083/ FOI-1040124/ FOI-1040139/ FOI-1040140/ FOI-1040148

Dear Mr Snowden,

Thank you for your requests of the 27 June 2016 under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act (2000) (our reference numbers are listed above). Your exact requests were:

FOI-1040077

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please provide any and all correspondence between the Chief Medical Officer, Sally Davies, and Prof Tim Stockwell of the University of Victoria sent between January 2013 and December 2015.

FOI-1040078

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please provide any and all correspondence between Department of Health officials and Prof Ian Gilmore of the Alcohol Health Alliance sent between January 2013 and December 2015.

FOI-1040079

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please provide any and all correspondence between Department of Health officials and Prof Mark Petticrew (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine) sent between January 2013 and December 2015.

FOI-1040080

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please provide any and all correspondence between Department of Health officials and Katherine Brown of the Institute of Alcohol Studies sent between January 2013 and December 2015.

FOI-1040081

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please provide any and all correspondence between Department of Health officials and Gerard Hastings (University of Stirling) sent between January 2013 and December 2015.

FOI-1040082

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please provide any and all correspondence between Department of Health officials and Lundbeck (the pharmaceutical company) sent between January 2013 and December 2015.

FOI 1040083

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please provide any and all correspondence between Department of Health officials and Munro and Forster Communications sent between January 2013 and December 2015.

FOI-1040124

Please provide all correspondence between Sally Davies (Chief Medical Officer) and Professor Sir Ian Gilmore sent between January 2013 and December 2015.

FOI-1040139

Please provide all correspondence between Sally Davies (Chief Medical Officer) and Prof Mark Petticrew (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine) sent between January 2013 and December 2015.

FOI-1040140

Please provide all correspondence between Sally Davies (Chief Medical Officer) and Katherine Brown (Institute of Alcohol Studies) sent between January 2013 and December 2015.

FOI-1040148

Please provide all correspondence between Sally Davies (Chief Medical Officer) and Prof Gerard Hastings (Institute of Alcohol Studies/Stirling University) sent between January 2013 and December 2015.

Please note that the FOI fees regulations state that two or more requests to a public authority from one person can be aggregated for the purposes of calculating costs if they are for the same or similar information. The fees regulations are available at the following link:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2004/3244/contents/made>

Information on aggregating requests is also set out in section 12(4)a of the FOI Act which states that:

“... where two or more requests for information are made to a public authority by one person the estimated cost of complying with any of the requests is to be taken to be the total cost of complying with all of them.”

On this basis, we are aggregating all your requests for the purposes of determining whether or not disproportionate cost would be involved in answering them, as we deem the requests for “the same or similar information”.

The Department may hold information relating to your requests. However, to comply with all of your requests as they are currently framed would incur disproportionate cost as defined by Section 12(1) of the FOI Act, which sets out that a public authority can refuse a request, if complying with it would exceed the appropriate limit of £600 (which represents 3.5 working days). This represents the estimated cost of one person spending this time in determining whether the information is held, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

If you were to refine your requests to within more specific margins, then we may be able to continue processing them. For example, six of your requests refer to correspondence with "Department of Health officials", which would require us to contact all sections within the Department, instigating a search and extracting any relevant information. If you were to refine these requests to a particular team or teams within the Department, and/or to reduce the overall number of your requests, then we may be able to continue processing them, although I cannot guarantee that Section 12 or any other exemptions will not apply to any information requested. You may also wish to consider reducing the time period of your individual requests.

To assist in narrowing your request to a particular team or teams, you may wish to view the Department's Organogram, which can be found on the following website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dh-staff-and-salary-data-on-1-april-2015>

If you have any queries about this email, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference numbers above in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Head of the Freedom of Information Team
Department of Health
Room G18
Richmond House
79 Whitehall
London SW1A 2NS

Email: freedomofinformation@dh.gsi.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Department. The ICO can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Dorothy Crowe
Freedom of Information Officer
Department of Health

freedomofinformation@dh.gsi.gov.uk