

26th August 2016

Our ref: NIC-52456-M2Y4M

Dear Mr Booth,

Re: Information Request – Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000

I can confirm NHS Digital has considered your request dated the 1st August 2016.

“As of the 1st August 2016, how many of the below are HSCIC currently party to:

- a) Data Sharing Contracts,*
- b) Data Sharing Agreements.*

The template Contract and Agreement can be found at <http://www.hscic.gov.uk/DARS>

Published data refers to approvals over time, but not a snapshot count on any particular date, which are the two counts being requested.”

Thank you for your enquiry.

As at 1st August 2016, NHS Digital was party to 534 Data Sharing Framework Contracts and had 685 central Data Sharing Agreements in force in relation to data access. This includes agreements issued through the Data Access Request Service (DARS), but excludes local arrangements relating to data releases from Data Services for Commissioners Regional Offices. Additionally, for information, data is also released under a Memorandum of Understanding between Public Health England and NHS Digital. More detail on releases of data is available from the data release register (www.nhsdigital.nhs.uk/dataregister) which includes the purpose around each data release.

Please note, NHS Digital is the new trading name for the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC). We provide ‘Information and Technology for better health and care’. Find out more about our role and remit at www.digital.nhs.uk

In line with the Information Commissioner’s directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the NHS Digital website.

I trust you are satisfied with our response to your request for information. However, if you are not satisfied, you may request a review from a suitably qualified member of staff not involved in the initial query, via the enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk e mail address or by post at the above postal address.

I will assume that your request to the organisation is now closed.

Yours sincerely,

L Boden
Information Governance Advisor

Further information about your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act is available from the Information Commissioner's Office, Wilmslow, Cheshire, and on The Information Commissioner's website www.ico.org.uk.

The NHS Digital values customer feedback and would appreciate a moment of your time to respond to our Freedom of Information (FOI) Survey to let us know about your experience. Please access the survey through this link [here](#)