



Department
for Work &
Pensions

DWP Central Freedom of
Information Team
Caxton House
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SW1H 9NA

Pauline Hinder
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[freedom-of-information-
request@dwp.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gov.uk)

[DWP Website](https://www.dwp.gov.uk)

Our Ref: FOI2021/22529
FOI2021/22531

13 April 2021

Dear Pauline Hinder,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 16 March. You wrote:

“We have now had a year of Covid deaths since March 2020.

I would like a breakdown of

1. total deaths of 1950's born women during this 12 month period.
2. Of these particular female deaths, how many were actually in receipt of their State pension at their death?
3. The remaining number of these women will not have reached their revised SPAs.and died pensionless.
4. Of these same group of females above, how many had cause of death as Covid”

You also wrote:

“Deaths of 1950s women during the 12 month period of lockdown 03/20-03/21.

Please advise how many women who died in the above period and were born in the 1950s, had their cause of death recorded as due to Covid or Covid-related.”

DWP Response

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, we have established that the information you requested on cause of death is not held by this Department

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) produce a wide range of [mortality statistics](#), including by age, sex and cause of death, on their website. Details on how to raise a Freedom of Information request with ONS can be found [here](#).

We can confirm that we hold some information falling within the description specified in the rest of your request. However, we have estimated that the cost of meeting your request would exceed the cost limit of £600 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days (equivalent to 24 staff-hours) in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

Under Section 12 of the Fol Act the Department is not therefore obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing it further. Under Section 16 of the Fol Act we should help you narrow your request so that it may fall beneath the cost limit.

The Department publishes quarterly State Pension statistics and these are available on [Stat-Xplore](#) with the latest statistics available to August 2020. Therefore, we feel that you should narrow your request to ask for the number of women born in the 1950's who died between 1 March 2020 and 31 August 2020 and were in receipt of State Pension at the time of death.

We will consider afresh any revised request however we cannot guarantee that any revised request will fall within the cost limit as each Fol request is judged on its own merits.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team
Department for Work and Pensions

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing freedom-of-information-request@dw.gov.uk or by writing to: DWP Central Fol Team, Caxton House, 6-12 Tothill Street, London, SW1H 9NA.

Any review request should be submitted within two months of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Website: [ICO Contact Information](#) or telephone 0303 123 1113.