



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 Jon Brownhill
request-487209-d2b9bf1d@whatdotheyknow.com

22 June 2018

Dear Mr Brownhill,

Freedom of Information Request Reference FOI-1133859

Thank you for your request dated 24 May, in which you asked the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC):

“How many employer’s liability claims did the Department of Health and Social Care settle in the most recent (2016 / 2017 ideally) financial year?”

What was the total in-year expenditure on employer’s liability claims inclusive of damages and other costs, such as claimants’ legal costs and medical fees.”

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

I have considered your request for information but I am unable to answer it without further clarification. Section 1(3) of the FOIA does not oblige us to answer requests where we require further clarification to identify and locate the information requested.

So that I provide you with the right information, please can you clarify whether you are referring to payments resulting from injuries to employees as a result of the work they do for DHSC? As a Crown Body, the Department does not have Employer Liability Insurance, which helps the employer pay compensation if an employee is injured or becomes ill because of the work they do. That differs from personal injury, as personal injury claims can be from anyone in relation to buildings employers are responsible for and not necessarily related to the work they do.

On receipt of this information I will continue to process your request.

Please be aware that we cannot guarantee at this stage that a clarified request will fall within the FOIA cost limit, or that other exemptions will not apply.

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 submitted within two months of the date of

receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the address at the top of this letter, or the email address at the end of this letter.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may complain directly to the Information Commissioner (ICO) who may decide to investigate your concerns. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have already appealed our original response, and received our internal review response. The ICO will not usually investigate concerns where there has been an undue delay in bringing it to their attention. You should raise your concerns with them within three months of your last meaningful contact with us.

The ICO can be contacted at:

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

<https://ico.org.uk/concerns>

Yours sincerely,

Charlene Carter
Freedom of Information Officer
FreedomOfInformation@dh.gsi.gov.uk