



Department for Business Innovation & Skills

Employment Agency Standards
Inspectorate
Department for Business, Innovation &
Skills
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Our ref: FOI2015/15269

17 August 2015

Dear Ms Gamwell,

Thank you for your email of 21 July 2015 where you requested the following information:

*I would like information on the operation of the Employment Agency Standards Inspectorate.
Please will you let me know for the years 2012/2013; 2013/2014; 2014/2015:*

- 1. Number of complaints and infractions found in general*
- 2. Number of complaints and infraction found in Healthcare*
- 3. Number of complaints and infractions relating to internationally recruited workers in healthcare*

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'), you have the right to:

- know whether we hold the information you require
- be provided with that information (subject to any exemptions under the Act which may apply).

I can confirm that the Department holds information relating to points 1 and 2 of your request. Information relating to point 3 has not been collected and is therefore not held by the Department.

Information on points 1 and 2 relating to 2012/13 is already in the public domain and is therefore exempt from disclosure under Section 21 of the Act, as we are not required to provide information which is already reasonably accessible to you. The information you requested is available on the following website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/employment-agency-standards-eas-inspectorate-annual-report-for-2012-to-2013>

Information on points 1 and 2 relating to the years 2013/14 and 2014/15 is exempt from disclosure under Section 22 of the Act, because the information is intended for publication at a future date. The information will be published on the www.gov.uk website, and you will be able

to locate it using the search term “employment agency standards annual report”. We are aiming to publish this information in Autumn 2015.

Section 22 is a qualified exemption and we have therefore considered the public interest test.

We acknowledge the public interest in favour of transparency. However, given the necessary preparation and administration involved in publishing the information, we consider that the best use of public resources would be directed to pulling this information together, ensuring the information is accurate and published in a consistent and comprehensive format, rather than in a piecemeal fashion. Having considered the public interest, we consider that the public interest in disclosing this information is outweighed by the public interest considerations in favour of withholding the information. The Department’s decision is therefore to withhold the information.

Appeals procedure

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 request and should be addressed to the Information Rights Unit:

Information Rights Unit
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET
Email: FOI.Requests@bis.gsi.gov.uk

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

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

Employment Agency Standards Inspectorate