

14 February 2012

Our Ref: IAT/ME/F12/4328

**General
Medical
Council**

Dr Helen Bright

By e-mail only

3 Hardman Street
Manchester M3 3AW

Telephone: 0161 923 6200
Facsimile: 0161 923 6201
Email: gmc@gmc-uk.org
www.gmc-uk.org

Dear Dr Bright

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) - Request

Thank you for your e-mail of 23 January in which you ask whether the GMC holds the data on the number of requested performance assessments for the years 1998 to 2009 and for the number of performance assessments that were actually done for these years.

I should explain that our electronic fitness to practise case management system was introduced in April 2006. Records prior to that date are held, but they are in hard copy form and are unstructured. So, we do hold the data that answers the questions you pose but in order to provide you with definitive figures it would be necessary to trawl through several hundred case files. Such an exercise would engage the FOIA costs exemption (section 12 of FOIA).

For the data from April 2006 onwards: We can confirm the number of doctors who were invited for a performance assessment and we can confirm the number of assessment reports that were produced. You should bear in mind, however, that it is possible that a doctor is invited to a performance assessment but then fails to comply with the assessment at a late stage. In some circumstances, those parts of the assessment which do not require the doctor's participation would still go ahead and a report be produced.

I hope that this information is helpful to you.

Yours sincerely



Mark Ellen
Information Access Team
Registration and Resources Directorate
Direct Line: 0161 923 6347
E-mail: mellen@gmc-uk.org