



Department of Health & Social Care

Freedom of Information Team
Department of Health and Social Care
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Mr David Johnson
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23 October 2020

Dear Mr Johnson

Freedom of Information Request References FOI-1220582 and FOI-1220636

Thank you for your requests dated 30 April, in which you asked the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC):

FOI-1220582

"I write in respect of Exercise Cygnus; the NHS England led simulation which looked at the impact of an influenza pandemic upon the United Kingdom.

Do you hold a copy of the final report into Exercise Cygnus? If you do hold a copy of the final report, please disclose a copy of the report in its entirety."

FOI-1220636

"I write in respect of Exercise Cygnus; the NHS England led simulation which looked at the impact of an influenza pandemic upon the United Kingdom.

"Please provide a list of all the organizational participants in the exercise, as well as a short summary in respect of each such participant which sets out the purpose and scope of their participation."

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

I apologise for the delay in this response.

Where more than one request is received for the same or similar information, section 5(2) of the FOI and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 allows public authorities to aggregate requests and respond to them together.

I can confirm that the Department holds information relevant to your request.

However, as the information held by the Department is now in the public domain we will, under Section 21 of the FOIA (information accessible to the applicant by other means), refer you to the published source.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-pandemic-preparedness>

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 this letter and sent to FreedomOfInformation@dhsc.gov.uk, or to the address at the top of this letter.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communication. If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may complain directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have already appealed our original response and received our internal review decision. You should raise your concerns with the ICO 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
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

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

Yours sincerely,

Nicole Mercer
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