



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 Richard Beswick

By email to: request-1221478-b547342c@whatdotheyknow.com

20 January 2025

Dear Mr Beswick,

Freedom of Information Request Reference FOI-1559853

Thank you for your request dated 5 January to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), a copy of which can be found in the accompanying annex.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

We have considered your request for information, but we are 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 we provide you with the right information, please can you explain what type of service provision you mean by the term *local health care clinics*? The term you have used is not legally defined, and greater specificity would be appreciated so we can accurately fulfil the request. On receipt of this information, we will 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.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team
freedomofinformation@dhsc.gov.uk

Annex

From: richard beswick <request-1221478-b547342c@whatdotheyknow.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2025 10:54 PM
To: FreedomofInformation <freedomofinformation@dhsc.gov.uk>
Subject: Freedom of Information request - Health care clinics

Dear Department of Health and Social Care,

I understand that many of our local health care clinics are now owned and operated by private health care providers.

Are you able to provide me with the following:

1. The number of local health care clinics that are owned and operated by private health care providers.
2. The number of health care clinics that are operated by the NHS.
3. The names of all the different private health care providers that own and operate health care clinics.
4. A comparison of the cost to the NHS or providing local health care by the NHS and that provided by private health care providers. This comparison can be by the average cost on a per patient.

Many thanks

Yours faithfully,

richard beswick