



Public Health
England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

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By email

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Our ref: 22/11/ab/883

24 January 2020

Dear Mr Mooney,

Re: 5G technology

Thank you for your further email dated 22 November in response to our reply of 28 October 2019 about the health impact of emissions from wireless communications. Your request for information has been handled under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR).

Your Request:

Thank you for your note today (Our ref: 28/10/ab/673) My FOI request was clearly narrowed down to:

All representations on the health impact of the emissions from wireless communications (covering Radio Frequency ElectroMagnetic Fields, and frequencies associated with 5G) made to Public Health England between Jan 2014 and Oct 2019 inclusive, and all evaluations of the representations made by PHE.

Your reply included:

"There were no enquiries for the years 2014-2016 which asked about 5G, Fifth Generation wireless or Millimetre Wave."

Please look a little bit harder - the date specified was Oct 2019 not '2016'. 'Representations' will of course be more than 'enquiries' for the wider period?

PHE Response: -

Please find attached correspondence for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019 which asked about 5G, Fifth Generation wireless or Millimetre Wave. There were no enquiries on this subject for the years 2014-2016.

Under Regulation 13 of the EIR we have withheld information consisting of names and contact details of PHE staff below SCS level. Likewise we have removed the names of officials from the Greater London Authority (GLA) and local authorities. We removed names and contact details of members of the public. This constitutes personal data which is exempt from disclosure. We have also removed some of the council names in order to reduce the risk of deductive disclosure of the individual members of the public.

As a large volume of material fell within the scope of the request we required more time to respond. In our contact of the 8 January we notified that this was the position as permitted under Regulation 7(1) of the EIRs.

Given that much of the information which forms part of this disclosure has been received into the organisation from members of the public, PHE does not support the views expressed in some of the correspondence. PHE's current position on EMF's can be found on the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/electromagnetic-fields>

If you have any queries regarding the information that has been supplied to you, please refer your query in writing in the first instance. If you remain dissatisfied and would like to request an internal review, then please contact us at the address above or by emailing foi@phe.gov.uk.

Please note that you have the right to an independent review by the Information Commissioner's Office if a complaint cannot be resolved through the PHE complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner's Office can be contacted by writing to Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

FOI Team