



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

Ms Frankie Hammond
request-606420-922f6447@whatdotheyknow.com

18 October 2019

Dear Ms Hammond,

Freedom of Information Request Reference FOI-1191152

Thank you for your request dated 22 September, in which you asked the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC):

“Subject: Freedom of Information request - HIV infected intimates Contaminated Blood

Dear Department of Health and Social Care,

I would like to see

Correspondence between the department of health and macfarlane trust regarding infected intimates between 1989 – 2019

Correspondence between the department of health and EIBSS regarding infected intimates between 2018-2019

Correspondence between the department of health and macfarlane trust regarding HIV health based grants between 2018-2019

Correspondence between the department of health and macfarlane trust regarding HIV funeral plan payments between 2018-2019”

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

DHSC holds information relevant to your request. However, to comply with your request as it is currently framed would exceed the cost limit as set out in Section 12(1) of the FOIA. Section 12(1) states that a public authority can refuse a request if complying with it would exceed the appropriate limit of £600, which represents 3.5 working days. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending this time in determining whether the information is held, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

It may help if I explain that in order to process your request, we would be required to search through a large number of files and establish whether they held information relevant to your request, which we consider would exceed the Section 12 cost limit.

You may wish to refine your request for information by focusing on correspondence with one particular organisation and asking more specific questions, for example around the eligibility or support available to infected intimates. You may also wish to narrow the timeframe for your request. However, we cannot guarantee that Section 12 or other exemptions will not apply to a refined request.

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 receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the address at the top of this letter, or the email address at the end of this letter.

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

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may complain directly to the Information Commissioner (ICO) who may decide to investigate your concerns. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have already appealed our original response and received our internal review response. The ICO will not usually investigate concerns where there has been an undue delay in bringing it to their attention. You should raise your concerns with them 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,

Lauren Der
Freedom of Information Officer
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