



2nd March 2016

Our ref: NIC-14852-K3Q2R

Dear Ms Watts,

Re: Information Request – Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000

I can confirm that the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) has considered your request dated the 4th February 2016.

“Patients List” held by GP Surgeries.

A) Do you have a record of how many UK citizens are NOT registered with a GP Surgery right now?

B) If so, what is the figure as of today?

C) What were the statistics for 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 in?

D) Are you able to keep a record of which GP Surgeries in Suffolk have “struck off” or removed the most patients from their NHS Patients List since 2013?

E) If so, since 2013, which 100 GP Surgeries struck off the most NHS patients from their Patients List?

F) Do you keep a record of the reasons for a patient being struck off from a GP Surgery?

For example, a hypothetical scenario in order to bring clarity to this FOI;

A patient's solicitor acts on the instructions of an insurance company, for example Direct Line and makes a Subject Access Request. After 2 months, the solicitor lodges a complaint about the records still being withheld from their client. The records are released and then the patient is struck off with only a seven day warning provided.

G) Is there a system within your department to ensure that the data behind the reasons for striking a patient off are factually correct?

H) Is there a system in place for ensuring that GP's are not acting in malfeasance against vulnerable citizens?

Focused FOI; Victoria Surgery, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.

I) How many patients have Victoria Surgery, Victoria Street struck off their records since 2009?

J) Please could you bring clarity to this FOI by outlining the statistics for each month.”

Thank you for your enquiry. The HSCIC, Population, Geography and International Statistics - Information Services only publishes data on the numbers of patients registered at a GP Practice in England; therefore is unable to help with any of the questions above.

However, please find below the link to Publication of “Numbers of Patients Registered at a GP Practice - Jan 2016 - 10:44 February 15, 2016 - 09:30 January 19, 2016 - Publication date: January 19, 2016”, which you may find useful.

<http://www.hscic.gov.uk/article/2021/Website-Search?productid=20032&q=title%3a%22number+of+patients+registered+at+a+gp+practice%22&sort=Relevance&size=10&page=1&area=both#top>

While our GP publication will give a total of registrations at a point in time it is more difficult to give a figure for people not registered.

We do not have an accurate total population figure as each year's population is an estimate and could vary due to many factors. Therefore calculating the difference between total population and total GP registrations is not accurate.

The registrations with a GP will always vary and there is no way of knowing which are "struck off", which would be local data held by the practice and possibly the CCG.

The HSCIC, Demographics Team has statistics for 2013 and 2014.

	31 08 2014	31 08 2013
PDS records (England and Wales) *	71,789,517	70,780,537
Registered with a GP practice	60,142,153	59,552,511
NOT registered with a GP practice	11,647,364	11,228,026

* This is the number of patient records held on PDS. This includes people who have left the country and their records may not have been marked as such, private patients and any other foreign visitors who may have been treated within NHS organisations but not classed as resident in England or Wales.

This is not meant to be a true reflection of the actual population of England and Wales

Reasons for not being registered with a GP practice can vary; private patients, patients that have had their registration cancelled (gone to live abroad, prison, removed from practice list), foreign visitors allocated a number but not registered for primary care etc.

HSCIC does not have any statistics for specific areas of the country. The local Primary Care Services which support Suffolk may be able to give more information about the figures / reasons etc.

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the HSCIC website.

I trust you are satisfied with our response to your request for information. However, if you are not satisfied, you may request a review from a suitably qualified member of staff not involved in the initial query, via the enquiries@hscic.gov.uk e mail address or by post at the above postal address.

I will assume that your request to the organisation is now closed.

Yours sincerely,

Linda Boden
Higher Information Governance Officer

Further information about your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act is available from the Information Commissioner's Office, Wilmslow, Cheshire, and on The Information Commissioner's website www.ico.org.uk.

The Health and Social Care Information Centre values customer feedback and would appreciate a moment of your time to respond to our Freedom of Information (FOI) Survey to let us know about your experience. Please access the survey through this link

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HSCIC_FOI_Feedback