

Cathryn Watters [request-717875-bbc7c4b5@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-717875-bbc7c4b5@whatdotheyknow.com)

Our ref: NMC-06863-S7X5V0

11 March 2021

## Freedom of Information Response

Dear Cathryn

Thank you for your request for information which was received by the Nursing and Midwifery Council on 12 January 2021. We wrote to you on 8 March 2021 informing you that we looking into your request.

We apologise for the delay in sending our response to you as we are currently experiencing a backlog.

### Your request

*Please can you supply me the following information:*

- 1. Number of cases that the referral source has taken longer than 6months to send supporting evidence*
- 2. Numbers of cases closed due to lack of evidence from referrer*
- 3. How many current cases still waiting for supporting evidence from referral source.*

### Our response

We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. (FOIA).

We can confirm that we hold the information you have asked for, unfortunately, the time/cost which would be involved for the NMC to comply with your request would be unreasonable. Section 12 of the Act allows public bodies to refuse a request if it is estimated that it would take over 18 hours or, would exceed a cost of £450 to compile the information to answer, this is known as 'exceeding the appropriate limit'

We estimate that it would exceed the appropriate limit to provide the number of cases that the referral source has taken longer than 6months to send supporting evidence; to provide the number cases closed due to lack of evidence from referrer and to provide the number of current cases still waiting for supporting evidence from referral source.

This is because to provide this information to you would require the NMC to carry out intensive manual checks of individual cases on our systems and we consider that this exercise would take us well over the cost limit specified under the FOIA. In addition to this, most fitness to practise cases would include one or more supporting evidence.

We estimate that this would take two to three persons at 7.5 hourly rate equal 18.75 hours per person; spending 2.5 working days in locating and collating the requested information; at £25 hourly pay totalling £468.75 per person which exceeds public duty cost limit.

In cases where section 12 is applied, we are obliged to give any available advice as to how you could revise your request to potentially fall within the appropriate limit.

Please see our published fitness to practise report here <https://www.nmc.org.uk/concerns-nurses-midwives/hearings/hearings-sanctions/>

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The nursing and midwifery regulator for England,  
Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Islands

Registered charity in England and Wales (1091434) and in Scotland (SC038362)

If you wish to revise your request, please send to [foi&dprequest@nmc-uk.org](mailto:foi&dprequest@nmc-uk.org)

**Internal review**

If you are not satisfied with the way we have dealt with your request you can ask for an internal review. To submit an internal review please email Graham Ostle Information & Data Requests Manager at [foi&dprequest@nmc-uk.org](mailto:foi&dprequest@nmc-uk.org)

Please submit any request within one month and tell us why you are not satisfied with our response.

Yours sincerely

Customer Information and Data Request Team  
Nursing and Midwifery Council.