

Our ref: **NIC-151614-C32YD**

14th May 2012

Dear Dr Bhatia,

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

I can confirm that the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) has considered your query dated the 2nd May 2012 received by us on the 3rd May 2012.

"Please would you kindly send me:

1) the minutes, and

2) any relevant briefing papers or documents sent out in advance or distributed at the time

of any and all meetings (including conference calls) that you have had with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) regarding implementation of GPES (General Practice Extraction Service) data extractions from primary care, held on or between 1st April 2010 and 31st April 2012.

Where a meeting was not purely about GPES, but included discussion about or relating to the subject, then I will be satisfied with the minutes and briefing papers of just those relevant items.

(I have already requested one specific briefing paper, "A patient opt-out marker for general practice disclosures" in a separate FOI request, just in case that paper falls under the remit of this request)."

Thank you for your enquiry. I have checked with the relevant members of our Information Governance Team, who attend meetings with the ICO and I can confirm that the HSCIC does not hold any recorded information in relation to meetings between the HSCIC and the ICO regarding the implementation of GPES.

I hope you understand the reasons why we are unable to supply the information requested. 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@ic.nhs.uk e mail address or by post at the above postal address.

Yours sincerely,

Julie Shippen
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.gov.uk.

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