



Department of Health

03/06/2014

DE00000863774

Dear Mr/Ms Goldman,

Thank you for your request of 28 May 2014 under the Freedom of Information Act (2000). Your exact request was:

"Please provide:

- 1. The total number of 'live' NHS numbers in England?*
- 2. The total number of 'new' NHS numbers issued every year since 2005.*
- 3. The total number of NHS numbers closed/ cancelled since 2005.*

If you do not hold this information please advise who does."

The Department does not hold this information.

General information about NHS numbers is published on the NHS Choices website at:

<http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/thenhs/records/Pages/thenhsnumber.aspx>

For the data behind this, you will need to contact the Health and Social Care Information Centre (NHS HSCIC), who are responsible for the day-to-day running of NHS Choices. Details on how to request information from the HSCIC under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) can be found at:

<http://www.hscic.gov.uk/foi>

There is also a contact email address provided on the previously mentioned NHS Choices webpage for any further enquiries about NHS numbers:

nhsnumber@hscic.gov.uk

If you have any queries about this email, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Head of the Freedom of Information Team
Department of Health
Room 520
Richmond House
79 Whitehall,
London
SW1A 2NS

Email: freedomofinformation@dh.gsi.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Department. The ICO can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Peter Camilleri

Freedom of Information Officer
Department of Health

freedomofinformation@dh.gsi.gov.uk