

28/03/2014

DE00000845890

Dear Mr/Ms Lavigueur,

Thank you for your request of 3 March 2014 under the Freedom of Information Act (2000). Your exact request was:

"I would like to know about strategic reviews of NHS hospital trusts in the last ten years in England and Wales.

Please could I have the following information, ideally in a spreadsheet.

A list of the reviews by trust with the following extra information:

Date of review

Location of hospital trust

Brief outline of options put to public consultation Preferred option of NHS provider Was the review referred to the Independent Reconfiguration Panel?

The outcome after DoH review...i.e. which option was implemented?

Was there a legal challenge - if yes what was the outcome?"

I can confirm that the Department of Health holds some information relevant to your request.

The reconfiguration of health services is a matter for the local NHS, and as such, the information you have requested is not collected centrally by the Department of Health.

You may wish to contact any relevant NHS Trust directly, as they may hold some information relevant to your request. Contact details for NHS Trusts are available on the NHS Choices website at:

http://www.nhs.uk/ServiceDirectories/Pages/AcuteTrustListing.aspx

However, where local cases for the reconfiguration of clinical services have been contested by the relevant health overview and scrutiny committee of a Local Authority, and submitted to the Secretary of State for Health and then subsequently referred to the Independent Reconfiguration Panel, information on each of these schemes is published online. As the information held by the Department is in the public domain, we will under section 21 of the FOI Act (information accessible to the applicant by other means) refer you to the published source:

http://www.irpanel.org.uk/view.asp?id=56

Any legal challenge concerning any local case for change brought about by judicial review will be available on the public record.

Please note that the Department of Health presides over the NHS in England only.

Wales is a devolved assembly and as such, you may wish to contact the Welsh Office for information concerning hospitals in Wales.

Further details about the administration of health services in Wales are available at:

http://www.wales.nhs.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,

Danny Lamond

Freedom of Information Officer Department of Health

freedomofinformation@dh.gsi.gov.uk