



Department of Health & Social Care

Freedom of Information Team
Department of Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0EU

www.gov.uk/dhsc

Ms Gemma Partridge
Request-694595-cf4aeace0@whatdotheyknow.com

27 October 2020

Dear Ms Partridge,

Freedom of Information Request Reference FOI-1259007

Thank you for your request dated 28 September, in which you asked the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC):

"In June 2020 your department claimed (contrary to Apple's statement) that the NHS's digital innovation unit had discussed its ambitions with Apple and NHSX has been working with Google and Apple extensively

FOI request one of two: Please kindly supply the minutes of meetings held between 'NHSX' and Apple between December 2019 and June 2020 inclusive; and

FOI request two of two: Please kindly supply the minutes of meetings held between 'NHSX' and Google between December 2019 and June 2020 inclusive.

Source for public reference: <https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-53105642>

NHSX: <https://www.nhsx.nhs.uk/>"

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

The Department may hold information relevant to your request. However, we are unable to begin processing your request without further clarification.

Under Section 1(3) of the Freedom of Information Act, an authority is not obliged to comply with an FOI request when it reasonably requires further information in order to identify and locate the information requested.

It would therefore be helpful to have further clarification regarding your request. For example, is your request regarding the Covid-19 App only or any meetings with Apple and Google across the entire of NHSX for a period of seven months and on any topic?

Please note that I cannot guarantee that any exemptions under the FOI Act will not apply to any further information requested.

If you are not satisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to appeal by asking for an internal review. This should be submitted within two months of the date of this letter and sent to FreedomOfInformation@dhsc.gov.uk, or to the address at the top of this letter.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communication.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may complain directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have already appealed our original response and received our internal review decision. You should raise your concerns with the ICO within three months of your last meaningful contact with us.

The ICO can be contacted at:

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

<https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

Yours sincerely,

Jane Spencer
Freedom of Information Officer
FreedomOfInformation@dhsc.gov.uk