



# 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](http://www.gov.uk/dhsc)

Ms Gemma Partridge  
[request-694595-cf4aeace@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-694595-cf4aeace@whatdotheyknow.com)

13/01/2021

Dear Ms Partridge,

## **Freedom of Information Request Reference FOI-1282420**

Thank you for your request dated 15 December, in which you asked the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC):

*“Thanks for your response. In light of this, please kindly provide a copy of meeting minutes (regardless of subject matter) between NHSX and Google and NHSX and Apple in 2020 specific to the dates below.*

*26 March, 10 April, 15 April, 19 April, 22 April, 27 April, 29 April, 4 May, 21 May, 4 June, 17 June, 22 June, 24 June.”*

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

Section 14(2) permits a public body to refuse a request for information if the request is identical, or substantially similar to a previous request submitted by the same individual or organisation, unless a reasonable period has elapsed between those requests.

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) states Section 14(2) can be applied to a request if it meets the following criteria:

- the request is identical or substantially similar to a previous request from the same requester;
- the authority has previously provided the information to the requester or confirmed that it is not held in response to the earlier FOIA request; and
- a reasonable interval has not elapsed between the new request and compliance with the previous request.

The Department received a request for substantially similar information on 27 October (ref: FOI-1266718), to which we issued a response on 15 December, refusing your request on the grounds that processing it would exceed the cost limit of 24 working hours as set out in Section 12 of the FOIA. We provided advice suggesting that the request was refined to read out from a particular meeting that you are interested in, however this request has not been refined, but appears to be an attempt to rephrase your previous request.

A copy of the response to your original request has been attached for your reference.

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](mailto: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,

Le-Anne Frankson  
Freedom of Information Officer  
[FreedomOfInformation@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:FreedomOfInformation@dhsc.gov.uk)