



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

Gemma Partridge
request-694595cf4aeace@whatdotheyknow.com

08 March 2021

Dear Ms Partridge,

Freedom of Information Request Reference FOI-1306478

Thank you for your request dated 17 February, 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).

I can confirm that the Department may hold information relevant to your request. Section 12(2) of the FOIA means public authorities are not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit for the DHSC is set at £600, which represents the cost of one person spending 3.5 days determining whether we hold the information.

In this instance to determine if all the information requested is held, we would be require a number of staff who work within the App team to search through a significant volume of internal documents (including emails), which will need then to be reviewed in order to respond to this request. To review this volume of documents would take considerable time and would therefore exceed the appropriate cost limit. Consequently, we will not be able to answer your request.

Although we cannot answer your request at the moment, we may be able to answer a refined request within the cost limit. You may wish to consider narrowing your request to minutes for one particular meeting date that you are interested in, in which case we may be able to continue processing your request. Please be aware that we cannot guarantee at this stage that a refined request would fall within the FOIA cost limit, or that other exemptions will not apply.

You may find it useful to see the list of dates DHSC officials met with Apple and Google, available online at: <https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-06-19/61677>

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,

Le-Anne Frankson
Freedom of Information Officer
FreedomOfInformation@dhsc.gov.uk