



Department of Health

13/03/2014

DE00000846411

Dear Mr Grogan,

Thank you for your request of 4 March 2014 under the Freedom of Information Act (2000). Your exact request was:

"I would like to know:

- 1. The number of abortions in England Scotland and Wales for 2013.*
- 2. Any and all injuries or ill-health that arose in an abortion case.*
- 3. How many abortions were not first-time cases for applicants i.e. in the case of persons having abortions for the second, third time etc.*
- 4. If any, and how many, abortions were undertaken in Northern Ireland under the Infant Life (Preservation) Act 1929.*

Could you classify these figures under age and country."

I can confirm that the Department may hold information relevant to your request.

However, the 2013 abortion statistics have not yet been released. Release of any data for 2013 prior to this date is exempt under Section 44 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000) which concerns prohibitions on disclosure. Section 44 applies where there is an existing statutory bar to disclosure. The relevant statutory bar derives from the Pre-Release Access to Official Statistics Order 2008, which defines the circumstances under which pre-release access to official statistics such as abortion statistics may be granted.

Once the statistics are published in May 2014, they will be available on www.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