



Sam Ward

By email to: request-1080596-d8f42d1c@whatdotheyknow.com

5 March 2024

Dear Sam,

Freedom of Information Request Reference FOI-1493306

Thank you for your request dated 5 February to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), a copy of which can be found in the accompanying annex.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). Please accept our apologies for the delay in replying.

Regarding your first question, DHSC holds the information you have requested.

As the Chief Coroner has published DHSC's response to the Prevention of Future Death (PFD) report, and it is in the public domain, we will, under section 21 of the FOIA (information accessible to the applicant by other means), refer you to the published source.

The Report and the responses have been published on the Judiciary website here [John Abrahams: Prevention of future deaths report - Courts and Tribunals Judiciary](#).

It may help if we explain that the publication of PFD reports is a matter for the Chief Coroner under the Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013 and not a matter for DHSC. DHSC would not publish anything further to what has been published by the Chief Coroner.

Reports are published by the Chief Coroner on the Courts and Judiciary website at www.judiciary.uk/courts-and-tribunals/coroners-courts/reports-to-prevent-future-deaths, and guidance on the publication of these reports can be found here: www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/PFD-publication-policy-9-11-21.pdf.

If you have any questions on the information published by the Chief Coroner, including the redactions to the documents which the Chief Coroner's office has made, you will need to contact its office directly.

Regarding your second question, DHSC holds the information you have requested.

We are mindful of the statutory responsibilities in relation to PFD reports and continue to prioritise these for response. However, on this occasion DHSC was not able to comply with the statutory deadline.

PFD reports play a valuable role in drawing matters of concern to the attention of the government, its agencies, and others to determine what appropriate action should be taken if necessary. DHSC ensures that relevant regulators and other bodies are aware of the matters of concern brought to its attention, so that the system can respond as appropriate.

The matters of concern raised by the Coroner in this report were, in the main, for the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) to address and MHRA has done so in a detailed response issued to the Coroner on 3 May 2023. DHSC's response acknowledged the actions taken by MHRA in the response issued to the Coroner on 26 June 2023.

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 sent to freedomofinformation@dhsc.gov.uk or to the address at the top of this letter and be submitted within two months of the date 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.

Guidance on contacting the ICO can be found at <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us> and information about making a complaint can be found at <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint>.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team
freedomofinformation@dhsc.gov.uk

Annex

From: Sam Ward <request-1080596-d8f42d1c@whatdotheyknow.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 12:13 AM
To: FreedomofInformation <freedomofinformation@dhsc.gov.uk>
Subject: Freedom of Information request - PFD notice for Jack Abrahams

Dear Department of Health and Social Care,

Under the FOI act I would like to be sent a copy of the response from the the DHSC to the Prevention of Future Death notice issued by Coroner Catherine McKenna with regards to the death of John(Jack) Abrahams.

I would also like to know why the response was not within the obligated timeframe?

Yours faithfully,

Sam Ward

Please use this email address for all replies to this request:
request-1080596-d8f42d1c@whatdotheyknow.com