



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

Mr/Ms Alex W
request-648035-4683c6e8@whatdotheyknow.com

24 February 2020

Dear Mr/Ms W,

Freedom of Information Request Reference FOI-1205691

Thank you for your request dated 19 February, in which you asked the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC):

"Dear Department of Health and Social Care,

Please could you tell me the amount of money that the department has spent on all activity related to the Coronavirus? In your response please tell me that date at which the info is accurate.

Yours faithfully,

Alex W"

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

Please note, under section 8(1) of FOIA, a request for information must comply with three requirements. It must:

- (a) be in writing,
- (b) state the name of the applicant and an address for correspondence, and
- (c) describes the information requested.

After initial consideration, this request appears to comply with requirements (a) and (c) but it does not comply with requirement (b) because you have not provided your full name. As your request is not valid under FOIA, I am not obliged to process your request. I would like to take this opportunity to recommend that any future FOI submissions adhere to Section 8 of the FOIA.

To enable us to meet your request, please resubmit your application including your real name. This should normally include your first name or a title (e.g. Miss or Dr) as well as your surname.

We will consider your resubmitted request upon receipt as long as it meets the requirements stated above. You will then receive a response from us within the statutory timescale of 20 working days.

Please be aware that we cannot guarantee at this stage that a clarified request will fall within the FOIA cost limit, or that other exemptions will not apply.

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,

Nicole Mercer
Freedom of Information Officer
FreedomOfInformation@dhsc.gov.uk