

Human Tissue Authority

2nd Floor
2 Redman Place
London
E20 1JQ

Tel: 020 7269 1900

Web: www.hta.gov.uk

Email: enquiries@hta.gov.uk

Date: 16 June 2023

By email to: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request, which was received by the Human Tissue Authority (HTA) on 23 May 2023. Your email outlined the following:

“I am submitting this request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Earlier this year, health and social care secretary [REDACTED] wrote to you. He asked whether you were getting “value for money from your diversity and inclusion memberships, and if not, consider any steps that you could take to address that”.

This included “following the Department [of Health and Social Care]’s example and allowing any associations/subscriptions that you have to lapse or be cancelled”. He set a deadline for 1 May to report back.

Please provide a copy of your response to [REDACTED] following this letter. In addition, please also answer the following questions:

1. Do you have any diversity and inclusion memberships that you have allowed to “lapse or be cancelled”? This can include before or after [REDACTED] letter;

2. If the answer is “yes” to question 1, please disclose:

- How many you have/had (under [REDACTED] definition of these memberships);
- Who each of them were with;
- How long the organisation had been subscribed to them; and
- How much they cost – both on a per annum and total cost basis

3. As NHS England has merged with Health Education England and NHS Digital, please provide their individual responses if possible as well as the one made by NHSE.”

Response

Please find enclosed the HTA's letter to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care as annex to this letter.

With regards to the additional questions, the HTA does not have any diversity and inclusion memberships, past or present, nor does the HTA hold information pertaining to NHS England, Health Education England and NHS Digital.

Further information

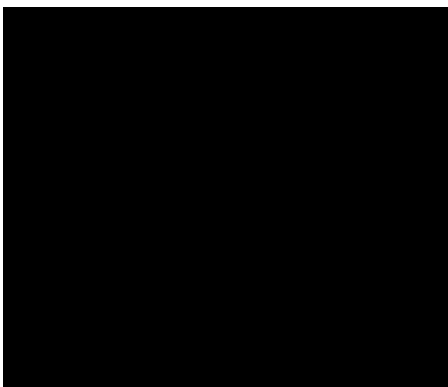
If you are unhappy with the way the HTA has handled your request for information in this case, you may in the first instance ask us for an internal review by writing to us at the above postal or email address.

If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to appeal directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision, at the address below. There is no charge for making an appeal.

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 08456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45
Website: www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely



Human Tissue Authority

[Redacted]

Secretary of State for Health and
Social Care

2nd Floor
2 Redman Place
London
E20 1JQ

Tel: 020 7269 1900

Web: www.hta.gov.uk

Email: enquiries@hta.gov.uk

Date: 28 April 2023

By email to:

Dear Secretary of State,

Diversity and Inclusion

Thank you for your letter of 24 March 2023.

We have completed a review of all the associations and subscriptions within the HTA, and I can confirm that we have no subscriptions or memberships to equality or diversity organisations, nor any discrete dedicated roles that have a specific focus on equality and diversity issues.

Our focus in this area continues to be ensuring we offer an environment that attracts and retains a diverse and inclusive workforce, through all staff adhering to good human resource management practices and co-operating with colleagues across the DHSC family of arms length bodies to share learning and best practice, without the need for external support.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted Signature]