

By email to: [REDACTED]

Human Tissue Authority

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London
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Tel 020 7269 1900
Web www.human-tissue-authority.gov.uk
Email enquiries@hta.gov.uk

08 December 2025

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information Act

Thank you for your email into the Human Tissue Authority (HTA) dated 11 November 2025 for which we gave the [REDACTED]. Your email has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("FOIA").

Your email outlined the following request ("your request"):

Request

To whom it may concern,

I am submitting the following request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to the Human Tissue Authority (HTA).

I am seeking information relating to how the Human Tissue Act 2004 and HTA regulatory framework apply to the removal, storage, and use of human brain tissue following neurosurgical procedures.

Please provide the following:

1. *Any inspection findings, recurring themes, or recommendations from HTA inspections (from 2019 to present) that reference neurosurgery, brain tissue, or consent for diagnostic tissue storage/use.*
2. *The number of adverse events, complaints or concerns reported to the HTA since 2019 that relate to consent, storage, or use of diagnostic surgical tissue (if available, please categorise where possible by issue type).*
3. *Copies of any HTA-issued communications (e.g., circulars, sector updates or briefing notes since 2019) relating to storage, consent or secondary use of diagnostic surgical tissue.*

Please provide the information electronically.

If any part of this request is likely to exceed the FOI time or cost limit, please advise how it may be refined while preserving the core intent of the request.

*Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to your response.
Kind regards,*
[REDACTED]

Response

In response to each of your numbered requests:

1. HTA inspection reports - which include our findings and set out our advice to inspected establishments - are published, in full, here:
[Latest inspection reports | Human Tissue Authority](#)

As we provide the information you have requested on our website, Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies.

2. Following a search of electronic records, we can confirm we do not hold information to satisfy this request.
3. Following a search of electronic records, we can confirm we do not hold information to satisfy this request.

Further information

We hope you found the above response to your request clear and helpful. If you are unhappy with the way the HTA has handled your request for information in this case, or if you disagree with how we have interpreted FOIA in answering your request, you may in the first instance ask us for an Internal Review by writing to us at the above postal or email address, within two months of this reply, specifying that you would like an Internal Review to be carried out.

Any Internal Review of the HTA's handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response.

Please remember to quote the case reference number above in any future communications.

If you remain dissatisfied after this Internal Review, 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.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,
Freedom of Information Officer