



By email

[REDACTED]

Our ref: 31/07/21/ld/913

16 August 2021

Dear [REDACTED],

Re: Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your request received on 31 July 2021 addressed to Public Health England (PHE). In accordance with Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act), I can confirm that PHE partly holds the information you have specified. I have answered your questions in the order raised.

Request

I am writing to request all documents relating to the “Independent analysis by Public Health England of the full Pfizer dataset” as referenced in the Commission on Human Medicines meeting held on 24th December 2020 (extract attached).

The documents should include, but not be limited to

- (1) The executive summary of the analysis***
- (2) The full summary of the analysis***

In accordance with Section 1(1)(a) of the FOI Act, PHE can confirm it does not hold this information. There was no executive summary or full summary of the analysis as suggested by your request.

Under Section 16 of the FOI Act, public authorities have a duty to provide advice and assistance. Accordingly, the paper presented to the Commission on Human Medicines meeting held on 24 December 2020 has been published at the link below:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/949505/annex-a-phe-report-to-jcvi-on-estimated-efficacy-of-single-vaccine-dose.pdf

- (3) The location and form of the source data analysed. If the location data is confidential this may be partially redacted. The format of the source data should be explicitly expressed (e.g. Excel, SQL, etc)***

In accordance with Section 1(1)(a) of the FOI Act, PHE can confirm it does not hold this information.

It is not the case that PHE had access to the full Pfizer dataset. The analysis conducted by PHE was based on publicly available data as referenced in the paper. Please note there is also an error in the 95% CI quoted – it was 89% (52-97).

(4) The names and qualifications of the group performing the analysis (if this is explicit in document (2) it should not be redacted)

In accordance with Section 1(1)(a) of the FOI Act, PHE can confirm it holds this information. The analysis was conducted by a PHE official. However, this information is exempt from disclosure under the Section 40 – *personal information* exemption of the FOI Act.

Under PHE's data disclosure policy, names of officials are not disclosed where the official in question is below Senior Civil Service level 2.

(5) The presentation provided to the CHM on 24th December relating to the analysis (e.g. powerpoint slides). If this presentation was only comprised of document (1) or (2) above it does not need to be provided separately.

In accordance with Section 1(1)(a) of the FOI Act, PHE can confirm it does not hold this information. There were no other papers or files presented alongside the paper in the link above.

If you have any queries regarding the information that has been supplied to you, please refer your query to me in writing in the first instance. If you remain dissatisfied and would like to request an internal review, then please contact us at the address above or by emailing foi@phe.gov.uk.

Please note that you have the right to an independent review by the Information Commissioner's Office if a complaint cannot be resolved through the PHE complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner's Office can be contacted by calling the ICO's helpline on 0303 123 1113, visiting the ICO's website at www.ico.org.uk or writing to the ICO at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely
FOI Team