Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

MHRA Central Freedom of Information Team
10 South Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London
E14 4PU

foi.request@mhra.gov.uk.

MHRA Website

[redacted]

Our Ref: **FOI2026/00754**

10 August 2026

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FoI) request received on 11 July 2026. You wrote:

> *'To reduce the burden of the request, I would like to amend it and proceed without the request for any follow-up correspondence relating to inspection outcomes. Please provide the inspection reports and any associated deficiency reports, CAPAs, or compliance letters only.*
>
> *Please let me know if any further refinement is required.'*

MHRA Response

We note this is a refined request from the previous FOI2026/00481 and interpret this request to be seeking:

> *'Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting copies of all MHRA Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) inspection reports conducted from 1 January 2025 to the present for the following NHS organisations:*
>
> 1. *Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust*
> 2. *Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust*
> 3. *Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust*
> 4. *South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust*
> 5. *Barking, Havering & Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust*
> 6. *Barts Health NHS Trust*
> 7. *Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust*
> 8. *St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust*
> 9. *London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust*
> 10. *NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde*
>
> *For each organisation, please provide:*
> - *Full MHRA GMP inspection reports (2025–present)*
> - *Any associated deficiency reports, CAPAs, or compliance letters'*

Under Section 14(1) of the FoI Act, public authorities are not obliged to comply with a request which is deemed vexatious. By way of clarification it is the request which is treated as vexatious, not the person making the request.

A request may be treated as vexatious if the amount of time required to review and prepare the information for disclosure would impose a grossly oppressive burden on the organisation.

A vexatious request is assessed with reference to all the circumstances of an individual case. There are four broad themes to consider when looking at whether an FoI request(s) is vexatious. These four themes are:

1. the burden (on the public authority and its staff);
2. the motive (of the requester);
3. the value or serious purpose (of the request); and
4. any harassment or distress (of and to staff).

These four broad themes are not a checklist, and they are not exhaustive they simply emphasise that a range of factors need to be considered when apply Section 14(1).

In this case, the Agency is treating your request as vexatious as we have conducted a retrieval exercise and identified 11 completed inspections related to the period cited in your original request (1 January 2025 until present). Please note, inspections that are not yet closed out are not included in these figures.

Before we release inspection reports, we have to consider redactions which are made to discrete pieces of information within the reports. This is a manual process and a rapid / automated method to complete this process does not exist. Due to the risk of human error, a QA check also takes place on the draft redactions which, while necessary, nonetheless places an additional burden on our resources.

We recognise the public interest in requests regarding the NHS but believe that answering this request would place a disproportionate burden on staff. The redaction would impede staff from other work at MHRA, affecting our ability to conduct inspection activities and respond to other queries. In summary, answering this request would take staff away from vital day to day work impacting public and patient safety issues.

On this basis, the Agency has decided that Section 14(1) of the FoI Act applies on this occasion.

If you wish to make a new request, you may bring it within the limits by narrowing the scope.

For example, by limiting each FoI request to a maximum of 3 - 5 reports with any associated their associated deficiency reports, CAPAs and compliance letters from the list on the following page.

Organisation name	Inspection Reference	Number of Inspection Reports
Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust	Insp GMP 11149/122819-0012 Insp IMP 11149/122819-0013 Insp IMP 11149/122819-0014 Insp IMP 11149/104676-0031 Insp GMP/GDP/IMP 11149/104676-0030	5
Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	Insp GMP 12903/90434-0018	1
Barking, Havering & Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust	Insp GMP 21369/300706-0009	1
Barts Health NHS Trust	Insp GMP 14620/11383121-0010	1
London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust	Insp GMP 44093/19426-0025 Insp GMP 44093/19426-0027	2
NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde	Insp GMP/IMP 24712/438076-0003	1

Please note the above list does not include all the sites requested, as where inspections are not yet finalised, documentation cannot be released.

When these reports are requested, Section 43(2) is engaged to withhold the inspection report in full because the inspection findings are currently subject to an on-going regulatory procedure. The report may include omissions or inaccuracies that, if released, would be likely to cause commercial harm. We perceive the public interest to be best served by with-holding the report until the regulatory procedure is finalised. The report would then be available to request through FOI.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

MHRA Central Freedom of Information Team
Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing foi.request@mhra.gov.uk or by writing to: MHRA Central Freedom of Information Team, 10 South, Colonnade, Canary Wharf, London, E14 4PU

Any request for an internal review must be received by us within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please note we are not obliged to provide a review if it is requested after more than 40 working days.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Website: ICO FOI and EIR complaints or telephone 0303 123 1113.

Re-use of our information

The MHRA information supplied in response to your request is subject to Crown copyright. Information created by the MHRA which is disclosed under the Freedom of Information Act is made available for re-use under the Open Government Licence (OGL) v3.0, except where this is otherwise stated. There are some restrictions on re-use under the OGL and these can be viewed here:
https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/