

Human Tissue Authority
151 Buckingham Palace Road
London
SW1W 9SZ

[REDACTED]
By email to [REDACTED]

Tel 020 7269 1900
Web www.hta.gov.uk
Email enquiries@hta.gov.uk
Date 17 September 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), which was received by the Human Tissue Authority (HTA) on 19 August 2020.

Your email outlined the following request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please could I request the following information:

1. What inspections activities does the Human Tissue Authority perform?
2. How many inspections (of each type if possible) were performed in 2019/20?
3. How many inspectors do you employ, and what was the annual cost of these inspectors in 2019/20?
4. Do you use third parties to perform these inspections? If so, who did you use, and what was the annual spend in 2019/20?
5. What information management system, if any, do you use to manage the inspections, and what was the annual spend on this in 2019/20?

For avoidance of doubt, by 'inspections' I mean 'activities that are carried out to ensure the inspected entity meets legislative requirements for their role or function or condition, delivers on their duty of care for individuals or the public and/or adheres to any rules set by government on use of government funds'.

Response

Further information

The HTA publishes information on inspection activities on its website which partially addresses your request.

1. Information about inspection activities can be found at the following link:
<https://www.hta.gov.uk/policies/inspections>

Please also note that since November 2010 we publish all site visit inspection reports. You can access the inspection reports on our website at the link below which provides details on activities carried out during each inspection.

<https://www.hta.gov.uk/news/see-our-latest-inspection-reports>

2. Information about the number of inspections performed between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020 is available in our Board papers (see Supplementary Data Annex, Table 1, site visits) on our website at the following link:
<https://www.hta.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Board%20Meeting%20papers%20May%202020%20Public.pdf>
3. The HTA employs 19 Regulation Managers who carry out inspections on behalf of the HTA. During the 2019/20 financial year we employed 19 Regulation Managers at a cost of £1,048,381.
4. No we do not use third parties to carry out inspections.
5. We use Microsoft Dynamics CRM as the information management system for inspections. In the year 2019/20 we spent £20,260.05 on the system. These costs include licensing, support and maintenance.

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 or complaint, 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

