

5 February 2024

IC-280996-B6X5

Request

In summary, you asked us:

"Could you kindly supply the following information for the following time periods

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- 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021
- 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022
- 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023
- 1st April 2023 to current date (10th January 2024)

- 1) The total number of Subject Access Requests (also known as DSARS) received
- 2) The total number of Subject Access Requests (also known as DSARS) received where they have been refused by the ICO as 'manifestly unfounded'
- 3) The total number of Subject Access Requests (also known as DSARS) received where they have been refused by the ICO as 'manifestly excessive'"

We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOIA).

Our response

We have searched our records based on the information you provided and can confirm that we hold some information within the scope of your request.

Our request handling system records which legislation a request is made under, but not which specific part of the legislation it relates to. That is, we record if a request is made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR), or the UK GDPR, but not more granular reasons for their request. This means that for information requests made under UK GDPR, unless we check every request individually, we are not able to determine if they relate specifically to Article 15 (the Right of Access), or another part of the Regulations, such as Article 17 (the Right to Erasure).

As can be seen by the number of information requests received under UK GDPR per year, taking the time to check each individual request would be highly likely

to exceed the 18 hour time limit for searching for information laid out in section 12 of the FOIA and in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004.

Therefore, we have provided below the total number of information requests we have received under UK GDPR. Please be aware that these numbers include requests under all parts of the Regulations, not just requests under the Right of Access, and could include requests for information erasure or rectification.

Completed FY	Number of requests under UK GDPR
2020/21	738
2021/22	928
2022/23	1104
2023/24 (to date)	1006

At the end of the 2023/2024 Financial Year, the total number of information requests received in FY 2023/34 will be published in our Annual Report. This will be published on our website. We have also published our previous years' [Annual Reports](#).

Please find below a chart showing the number of requests received under UK GDPR for the above time periods that were refused as manifestly unfounded, manifestly unreasonable, as well as those refused as vexatious or because they were a repeat request.

Completed FY	Manifestly unfounded	Manifestly unreasonable	Refused - vexatious/repeat request
2020/21	7	0	10
2021/22	22	0	11
2022/23	26	2	3
2023/24 (to date)	19	2	4

No information has been redacted or withheld from disclosure.

This concludes our response to your request.

Next steps

You can ask us to review our response. Please let us know in writing if you want us to carry out a review. Please do so within 40 working days.

You can read a copy of our full review procedure [here](#).

If we perform a review but you are still dissatisfied, you can complain to the ICO as regulator of the FOIA. This complaint will be handled just like a complaint made to the ICO about any other public authority.

You can [raise a complaint through our website](#).

Your information

Our [Privacy notice](#) explains what we do with the personal data you provide to us, and set out your rights. Our retention schedule can be found [here](#).

Yours sincerely



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**For information about what we do with personal
data see our [privacy notice](#)**