

Public Information Access Office Wellington House 133-155 Waterloo Road London SE1 8UG Tel: 020 8327 6920 www.gov.uk/phe

By email

Our ref: 11/01/jb/492

29 January 2014

Re: Amount spent on fluoridation

Thank you for your email of 11 January 2013 in which you asked "how much public money has been spent by Public Health England [PHE] on progressing the issue of fluoride in tap water...(to include a best estimate of officers time, legal costs etc)"

Your email has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act. In accordance with Section 1(1)(a) of the Act I can confirm that PHE does not hold the information requested. PHE does not record this information; there are no officers whose work is fully devoted to the issue and legal advice is obtained from the Department of Health's legal services.

Please note that the FOI Act only covers information held by a public authority. We are not required to create new information or to record information not needed for our own business purposes. Nor are we obliged to create a best estimate in order to respond to your request and to do so would be poor information governance.

If you have any queries regarding the information that has been supplied to you, please refer them to me in the first instance. If you are dissatisfied with this response and would like to request an internal review, then please contact Mr George Stafford at the address above or by emailing complaints@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 writing to Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Officer