



ASSURING THE SAFETY, QUALITY & EFFICACY
OF VETERINARY MEDICINES

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ATI 300

Request

From: [Redacted under section 40 of the FOIA]

Sent: 10 June 2014

Subject: From the VMD - VMD Ref: ATI298

I request under the Freedom of Information Act that I receive all the information from my first contact with the VMD until this. Including full transcripts and copies of the taped conversations. I expect to receive the all the documents including those you say I could 'use maliciously'. You can remove the names of the people involved as you have with the emails.

VMD Reply

Sent: 17 June 2014

To: [Redacted under section 40 of the FOIA]

Subject: From the VMD - VMD Ref: ATI298

Your Request

Thank you for your email dated 10 June 2014 following up my reply to you, our reference ATI298.

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

You asked for what you called 'missing' information regarding "the investigation of your case" from your first contact with the VMD. You identified such information as:

- email exchanges between you and the 'VMD Inspector', [Redacted under section 40 of the FOIA] and the 'Enforcement officer'.
- full transcripts and copies of taped conversations and
- all the documents.

Our Reply

Email exchanges between you and the 'VMD Inspector', [Redacted under section 40 of the FOIA] and the 'Enforcement officer'

As I explained in my earlier reply we are not required to send you copies of email exchanges between the VMD and you; and other correspondence that we sent to you, under Section 21 of the FOIA. You already have this information. This includes any email exchanges between you and [Redacted under section 40 of the FOIA]. Section 21 applies to information that is already reasonably accessible to you. It recognises that the right of access under FOIA is supplementary to the very many ways in which public authorities already provide information to members of the public.

For information, [Redacted under section 40 of the FOIA] carried out the VMD's investigation of your allegations at the Veterinary Clinic accompanied by a VMD Inspector with experience of inspecting veterinary practices. [Redacted under section 40 of the FOIA] and the Inspector did not conduct the meeting formally under caution. We have no emails between them and I covered the other information we do hold relating to [Redacted under section 40 of the FOIA] investigation of your allegations in my ATI298 reply under the heading "Email exchanges between [Redacted under section 40 of the FOIA] and other parties about arrangements for his visit to the Veterinary Clinic".

Full transcripts and copies of the taped conversations

We do not hold any transcripts or copies of taped conversations as we did not take transcripts or tape conversations at any time during the investigation of your allegations.

Documents

Regarding your general expectation of receiving documents, as I explained in my reply to ATI298 the FOIA gives you an entitlement to information and not documents. However, in our effort to help you obtain the information you requested under ATI298 we did provide you with the actual VMD email exchanges that led to our reply to you of 3 April 2012 because that was the quickest way we could get that particular information to you.

There is no 'missing' information

We have now covered all the information the VMD holds regarding "the investigation of your case", here and in our earlier reply – there is, then, no 'missing' information as you suggest.

Our Service

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint, you may request an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this e-mail. If you would like to request an internal review please write to [Redacted under section 40 of the FOIA] at the VMD via ati@vmd.defra.gsi.gov.uk. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be

contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF