



Pubs Code Adjudicator

Office of the Pubs Code Adjudicator
Lower Ground
Victoria Square House
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B2 4AJ
Email: office@pca.gsi.gov.uk

18 October 2017

Dear XXX

Thank you for your email, received on 21 September 2017, in which you requested information from the office of the Pubs Code Adjudicator (PCA) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

The Act entitles you to:

- know whether the information you have requested is held by the PCA; and
- be provided with that information, subject to any exemptions in the Act which may apply.

You have requested the following information:

Of the 14 accepted referrals for arbitration in relation to an Independent Assessor determination, how many of these are now concluded.

I can confirm that the office of the PCA does hold information relevant to your request.

It may firstly be helpful to explain the timings associated with arbitration. The object of arbitration is to obtain settlement without undue delay or expense; however, there is no set time that a case will take. The time taken to complete an arbitration is dependent on one or more of a number of different reasons. These may include how many people are involved, how quickly the parties agree to procedures and provide relevant information and evidence, how complicated the case is, and the nature and extent of evidence as well as whether other applications are made within the proceedings. Cases can often be stayed for a period of time or deadlines extended at the request of the parties involved in order to address particular matters. This will impact on the length of time a case remains open.

As outlined in our letter dated 29 August 2017, since the Pubs Code came into force on 21 July 2016 up to and including 1 August 2017, the office of the PCA received 15 referrals for arbitration in relation to an Independent Assessor determination. Of



Pubs Code Adjudicator

these, the PCA accepted 14 referrals. In response to your further query, none of these referrals were concluded up to and including 1 August 2017.

If you do not believe that the office of the PCA has responded correctly to your request, as set out above, you are entitled to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original request and should be made in writing, quoting the above reference, to office@pca.gsi.gov.uk or:

PCA
Lower Ground
Victoria Square House
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B2 4AJ

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.