



Medicines & Healthcare products
Regulatory Agency

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[REDACTED]

22 August 2023

FOI 23/541

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your information request, dated 20 July 2023, where you asked:

Referring to the Parliamentary Question and Answer below, please would you send me the following information under FOI.

1. The exact nature and details of the incomplete records referred to.
2. The reason records are incomplete.
3. Whether the PQ answer means the MHRA holds no such records of any such prosecutions.

The Department of Health and Social Care has provided the following answer to your written parliamentary question (194463):

Question:

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, how many prosecutions of pharmaceutical companies withholding information from the Medicines & Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency have occurred in the last twenty years. (194463)

Tabled on: 17 July 2023

Answer:

Will Quince:

“While the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency’s (MHRA) records dating back to 2003 are incomplete, it is unable to identify any prosecutions that have occurred as a result of a pharmaceutical company withholding information.

I am pleased to provide you with the information requested, please see below.

- 1. The exact nature and details of the incomplete records referred to.**



Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

The MHRA's Criminal Enforcement Unit uses a case management system to record its criminal investigations.

Going back as far as 2011, the earliest identified records on the current database, we can find no record of any prosecutions involving a pharmaceutical company withholding information from the MHRA.

2. The reason records are incomplete.

The MHRA does not hold records of its closed investigations and prosecutions previously held on now decommissioned systems.

3. Whether the PQ answer means the MHRA holds no such records of any such prosecutions.

We can find no record of any prosecution involving a pharmaceutical company withholding information from the MHRA during the period requested.

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If you were to remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you would have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Please bear in mind that the Information Commissioner will not normally review our handling of your request unless you have first contacted us to conduct an internal review. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

Yours sincerely,

Criminal Enforcement Unit, Safety and Surveillance Group