

Re: FOI 24/300 - Illegal and disposable vapes

FOILicensing <FOILicensing@mhra.gov.uk>

Tue 23/04/2024 18:13

To

Cc:MHRA Customer Services <MHRACustomerServices@mhra.gov.uk>

Dear Ms

Thank you for your information request, dated **26/03/2024** where you asked for:

- *“The number of cases of illegal vapes (i.e. That do not meet Trading Standards regulations/ contain illegal ingredients/ are unregistered with the MHRA etc) that have been recovered in the UK each year, for the last 5 years”.*

Enforcement responsibilities for the information requested are not within the legal remit of the MHRA. This question should be directed to appropriate local authorities within the United Kingdom. Alternatively, you may be able to request the collected data from the [Chartered Trading Standards Institute](#).

- *“The number of disposable vapes sold in the UK each year, for the last 5 years (up to as close to the present day as possible)”*
- *“The data above split into age categories (e.g. what proportion of the vape users were under 18 years old, as a potential example)”*

The MHRA is not responsible for reviewing or enforcing the collection of industry sales data and are unable to provide this information. This information may be available from industry trade bodies including the [IBVTA](#) and the [UKVIA](#).

Under the Section 16 duty to assist, we have provided the contact information above to assist you in your enquiries.

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If you disagree with how we have interpreted the Freedom of Information Act 2000 with regards to your request, you can ask for the decision to be reviewed. The review will be carried out by a senior member of the Agency who was not involved with the original decision.

If you have a query about the information provided, please reply to this email.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date you receive this response and addressed to: info@mhra.gov.uk

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

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,

MHRA E-Cigarette Unit

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 12:11 PM
To: MHRA Customer Services <MHRACustomerServices@mhra.gov.uk>
Subject: FOI 24/300 Illegal and disposable Vapes

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from the MHRA. Please may you provide me with:

- the number of cases of illegal vapes (i.e.that do not meet Trading Standards regulations/ contain illegal ingredients/ are unregistered with the MHRA etc) that have been recovered in the UK each year, for the last 5 years.

And if possible:

- the number of disposable vapes sold in the UK each year, for the last 5 years (up to as close to the present day as possible)
- the data above split into age categories (e.g. what proportion of the vape users were under 18 years old, as a potential example)

Please provide the information in the form of a PDF sent via email.

If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

If you can identify any ways that my request could be refined I would be grateful for any further advice and assistance.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me via email or phone and I will be very happy to clarify what I am asking for and discuss the request, my details are outlined below.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to your response.

Best wishes.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mobile: [REDACTED]

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