

Dear [REDACTED]

My apologies for coming back to you a little later than I'd hoped – I waited for some further guidance to come back to me from the team concerned.

As I mentioned on Friday, the scope of the request at the moment means that bringing all the information together would exceed the time limits set out in the FOIA; however, I've put some points together below which would make the retrieval more focused, if you would be happy to narrow the request along these lines:

- *Q1. A list of names of all the products that were seized (or the names of what they were purporting to be, if they were counterfeit)*
- *Q2. Total quantities of each type seized (i.e. 100 vials of botulinum toxin)*

For questions 1 and 2, we would be able to answer if you would be happy to ask about therapeutic areas, rather than individual medicines. An alternative would be to ask for the top 10 or 15 medicines seized, rather than all. To explain, we seize vast quantities of certain medicines, but may only seize very small quantities of some others. You would be able to get a good indication of what is seized from a 'top 10'.

- *Q3. Subtotals of seizures, however possible – either by specific operation/raid or by local area or region (i.e. so I could calculate the single biggest seizure of X)*

If the scope for this question could be narrowed by specifying that this is for MHRA seizures only, this will be possible within the FOI limits.

- *Q4. The total estimated market value of each medicine/product type seized (i.e. £10,000 worth of sleeping pills)*

Again, this could be narrowed to correspond with your choice of either therapeutic areas or a 'Top 10'.

I mentioned on the phone that we will need to log the narrowed request as a new one, but my colleagues anticipate that they will be able to complete the smaller request more quickly, and within the new 20 day time frame.

I hope that this is useful for you, if you could let me know how you'd like to proceed that would be very helpful. If you're not able to come back to me today with your confirmation, that's not a problem; I'd issue a formal 'refusal notice' for the current request under FOI, but the advice above will still be included in that.

Yours sincerely

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