



# Government Legal Department

Operations  
102 Petty France  
Westminster  
London  
SW1H 9GL

+44 (0)20 7210 3000  
[FOI@governmentlegal.gov.uk](mailto:FOI@governmentlegal.gov.uk)  
[www.gov.uk/gld](http://www.gov.uk/gld)

[REDACTED]

Ref No: FOI 25\_157

20<sup>th</sup> August 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 26<sup>th</sup> July 2025 containing your request for information. The Government Legal Department ("GLD") have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act", "FOIA")

## Request

Please detail your department's budget for health and wellbeing programmes for staff, the number of staff referred to Employee Assistance Programmes, and the total number of sick days taken by staff within the department. I'd like the information year on year for the past three years from August to July.

## Response

Pursuant to Section 1(1)(a), GLD confirms that it does not hold all the information you have requested.

GLD's Health and Wellbeing Programmes are supported through multiple budgets rather than single, consolidated budget, reflecting the diverse nature of services provided. These budgets are not all solely dedicated to Health and Wellbeing Programmes. GLD can confirm the individual budgets for the following Health and Wellbeing Programmes. Please note that budgets for these programmes are recorded and managed in accordance with the financial year:

### April 2022 – March 2023

Occupational Health and Employee Assistance Programme: £120,000  
Flu Voucher Scheme: £15,000

### April 2023 – March 2024

Occupational Health and Employee Assistance Programme: £120,000  
Flu Voucher Scheme: £20,000

### April 2024 – March 2025

Occupational Health and Employee Assistance Programme: £150,000  
Flu Voucher Scheme: £20,000

Employee Assistance Programme referrals:

### August 2022 – July 2023

GLD does not hold referral figures for this period

### August 2023 - July 2024

Number of employees referred to Employee Assistance Programme: 131

August 2024 - July 2025

Number of employees referred to Employee Assistance Programme: 133

Total Number of Sick Days Taken by Staff:

Please note that the total number of sick days taken by GLD staff within a 12-month period is reported on a quarterly basis. The information below reflects the second quarter of the calendar year beginning July and ending the following June. Information for the period July 2024 – June 2025 is not yet available. The latest information GLD can provide is for the period April 2024 – March 2025.

July 2022 – June 2023

Total working days lost over 12 months: 12,087.81

July 2023 – June 2024

Total working days lost over 12 months: 13,595.99

April 2024 – March 2025

Total working days lost over 12 months: 13,846.59

Additionally, I attached the link with further information regarding GLD sickness days data on average for members of staff.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/civil-service-sickness-absence-2024/civil-service-sickness-absence-2024-report>

## Your Rights

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask GLD for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted to GLD within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original correspondence. Please use the contact details provided at the top of this letter in order to request an internal review relating to your original request.

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

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  
[www.ICO.org.uk](http://www.ICO.org.uk)

Yours sincerely,

### Freedom of Information Team

Operations, Government Legal Department  
102 Petty France, Westminster  
London, SW1H 9GL  
[FOI@governmentlegal.gov.uk](mailto:FOI@governmentlegal.gov.uk)