

From Information Management Branch



Castle Buildings  
Stormont Estate  
Belfast BT4 3SQ  
E-mail: [FOI@health-ni.gov.uk](mailto:FOI@health-ni.gov.uk)

Your Ref:  
Our Ref: DOH/2021-0317  
Date: 8 November 2021

Dear

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**

I have been asked to respond to your most recent Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 29 October 2021. In it you asked us

1. Please detail the number of cases which were forecasted to originate due to transmission in restaurants? Please provide this for a specific time period -12 months.
2. Please detail the number of covid cases which have been traced due to being transmitted within a restaurant during the pandemic until the date in which you respond to this request.
3. Please detail the age profile of those people contracting covid at a restaurant during the pandemic until the date in which you respond to this request. Age brackets per ten years will suffice.
4. When considering the age profile of those people, please include the actual number of people who have required hospitalisation within that age group due to catching covid within a restaurant setting.
5. Using your track and trace information, of those that caught covid at a restaurant setting, how many of their 'close contacts' went on to test positive for covid?
6. Please detail the age profile of those close contacts.
7. Following introduction of vaccine passports, please detail the expected percentage reduction of covid cases transmitted in a restaurant setting.
8. Please provide your evidence/modelling for which this forecast is based.

9. Please detail the forecasted financial cost to restaurants to implement vaccine passport checks.

10. What is the proposed penalty to restaurants for failure to implement vaccine passport checks?

This information is not held by the Department

However following some discussions with the relevant business areas it would seem that the [Public Health Agency \(PHA\)](#) may hold some information to answer Q1-8 although we feel that information may not be held at this level of granularity and modelling as this level of granularity may not be conducted or possible, although the characteristics of high risk settings can be specified.

As for Q9 this has not been considered as yet and in response to Q10 there is currently no mandatory requirement to check so there is no enforcement penalty. Should it ever become mandatory, any penalties will be for Executive to consider at that point and they would be policy lead in that case so you would need to contact them ([The Executive Office \(TEO\)](#))

If you feel that the information I have provided above does not fully meet your request, you have the right to request that the Department formally review this decision within two calendar months of the date of this letter. If you wish to do so, please write to Mr Brendan O'Neill ([foi@health-ni.gov.uk](mailto:foi@health-ni.gov.uk)), Annexe 3, Castle Buildings, Stormont, Belfast BT4 3SQ.

If after such an internal review you are still unhappy with the response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE SK9 5AF, who will undertake an independent review.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours Sincerely

Jeff Burns  
Information Management Branch  
Department of Health NI

From Information Management Branch



Castle Buildings  
Stormont Estate  
Belfast BT4 3SQ  
E-mail: [FOI@health-ni.gov.uk](mailto:FOI@health-ni.gov.uk)

Your Ref:  
Our Ref: DOH/2021-0316  
Date: 8 November 2021

Dear

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**

I have been asked to respond to your most recent Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 29 October 2021. In it you asked us

1. Please detail the number of cases which are forecasted to originate due to transmission in pubs? Please provide this for a specific time period – 12 months.
2. Please detail the number of Covid cases which have been traced to being transmitted within a pub during the pandemic until the date in which you respond to this request?
3. Please detail the age profile of those people contracting Covid within a pub? Age brackets per ten years will suffice.
4. When considering the age profile of those people – Please include the actual number of people who have required hospitalisation within that age group due to catching Covid within a pub setting?
5. Using your track & trace information – Of those that caught Covid in a pub setting, how many of their ‘close contacts’ went on to test positive for Covid?
6. Please detail the age profile of those close contacts?
7. Following the introduction of Covid passports – please detail the expected % reduction of Covid cases transmitted in a pub setting?
8. Please provide the evidence or modelling for which this forecast is based?

9. Please detail the forecasted financial cost for pubs to implement vaccine passport checks?

10. What is the proposed penalty to pubs for failure to implement vaccine passport checks?

This information is not held by the Department

However following some discussions with the relevant business areas it would seem that the [Public Health Agency \(PHA\)](#) may hold some information to answer Q1-8 although we feel that information may not be held at this level of granularity and modelling as this level of granularity may not be conducted or possible, although the characteristics of high risk settings can be specified.

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