



National Audit Office

**The UK's independent public spending watchdog**

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Email [FOI@nao.org.uk](mailto:FOI@nao.org.uk)

Reference FOI-1523

Date 19 May 2022

## FOI REQUEST: DESTROYED VACCINES

Thank you for your request of 23 April 2022 for information relating to destroyed vaccines.

Your request is being handled under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your specific request is reproduced at Annex A where we also provide our full response.

We hope you find our response helpful. Annex B sets out the steps you may wish to take if you are not satisfied with the way we have handled your request for information under the FOIA.

Yours sincerely

**NAO FOI Team**

## Annex A

### Request for information about destroyed vaccines.

(Your request in italics, NAO response in plain text)

*The National Audit Office has previously stated that 4.7 million (4%) of vaccine doses have been destroyed nationwide since the vaccination programme began: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health>*

*Please can I have the number of vaccine doses that have been destroyed in Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, Derby, and Derbyshire since the start of the vaccine rollout (December 2020) to the most recent data available?*

*Can these please be presented as totals for each city/county and by districts. If possible, could the reason for their destruction be also included, as well as how many vaccines have been administered in each area?*

Following the acknowledgement email that we sent you on 29 April, you confirmed on 1 May that our interpretation of your request was correct – i.e. that your request is about Covid-19 vaccines.

### **NAO response**

We can confirm that we do not hold information in scope of your request.

All the data we hold is at a national level without local breakdowns. We analysed data on vaccine wastage up to the end of October 2021 which is summarised in paragraphs 2.17 to 2.19 of our report: [The rollout of the COVID-19 vaccination programme in England](#).

The data we hold in relation to the reasons for wastage or destruction, are also at national level and are summarised in the same paragraphs. Additionally, you may find the weekly vaccination statistics from NHS England helpful. The data is available at [Statistics » COVID-19 Vaccinations \(england.nhs.uk\)](#). The most recent data available [COVID-19-weekly-announced-vaccinations-19-May-2022.xlsx](#) covers the period up to 15 May 2022, and includes some regional and local details.

## Annex B

### Statement of Policy

Our policy is to respond to requests made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as helpfully and promptly as possible, having regard to the principles set out in the Act. We therefore hope you are happy with the way we have handled your request. If you are not, then you should take the following steps.

In the first instance, within 40 working days, write to the National Audit Office Freedom of Information (FOI) Team at [FOI.requests@nao.org.uk](mailto:FOI.requests@nao.org.uk) or by post\* to:

FOI Team, Green 2, National Audit Office, 157-197 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SP

The Head of FOI will arrange a review, which will be conducted by a senior member of staff who was not involved in decisions relating to your original request. Once the review has been completed, we will write informing you of the outcome.

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:

<https://ico.org.uk/>

or

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

**\*Please note: due to the ongoing Coronavirus situation, some restrictions remain regarding staff access to our office premises. Hard copy post sent to our offices may be subject to delay.**