



Resolution

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April 2023

FOI_5894

The following information was requested on 23 March 2023:

Follow up to [FOI 5773](#)

I'm trying to compare what looks to be a steep rise in ophthalmology payments in the latest year with payments in other specialties.

So I'm wondering why the stats in your FOIs don't seem to match up to the annual report figures published here: <https://resolution.nhs.uk/resources/annual-report-statistics/>

For example, the FOIs say total payments for closed ophthalmology clinical claims were £49,152,144 in 2021/22 and £26,694,710 in 2020/21. However, in the supplementary spreadsheet, these figures were listed as £41,307,386 and £40,537,522 respectively.

Would appreciate your help in clearing this up.

FOIs referred to are:

https://resolution.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/FOI_5140_Ophthalmology.pdf

[FOI 5773_Ophthalmology.pdf \(resolution.nhs.uk\)](#)

Our Response

Our FOI responses ([FOI 5140](#) and [FOI 5773](#)) both relate to closed/settled as PPO claims, within the named financial years, as such the total payments paid to date figures are covered in the FOI responses. This would relate to all payments made paid to date on those claims.

For our [supplementary accounts and statistics](#) the data is pulled for all claims irrespective of the claim status, the payment tables relate to all payments made within the financial year not necessarily the closed or settled year. Therefore, this will include all payments made on open claims as well as closed claims in year.

If a claim is settled as a Periodical Payment Order (PPO), it would appear in our FOI responses in the year in which it settled with the payments paid to date for the claim, in

the supplementary accounts data this would be accounted for each year as individual payments made throughout the life of the PPO.

PPOs are an agreement between the parties, to pay an initial lump sum and regular future payments covering the injured party's ongoing care needs, usually for life i.e. a percentage of the full value of the claim is paid at the point of settlement with the balance paid at regular intervals over subsequent years.

It is therefore not possible to compare the FOI response against the supplementary accounts and statistics as the data set is different.

Further to our obligations to provide advice and assistance, you may find it helpful to review the work of the [Getting It Right First Time team](#) with whom NHS Resolution has been working with to undertake in-depth analysis of our claims data. They have produced a number of [reports](#) from analysing our claims data which has been shared following approval of the confidentiality advisory group to the use of confidential patient information for this purpose.

If you would like to know how data is categorised in our Claims database please see the following link: [Glossary](#)

This concludes our response to your request.

If you are not satisfied with the service that you have received in response to your information request, it is open to you to make a complaint and request a formal review of our decisions. If you choose to do this, you should write to [Tinku Mitra](#), Deputy Director of Corporate and Information Governance, Data Protection Officer for NHS Resolution, within 28 days of your receipt of this reply. Reviews of decisions made in relation to information requests are carried out by a person who was not involved in the original decision-making about the request.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a review of the decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner will not make a decision unless you have exhausted the local complaints procedure. The address of the Information Commissioner's Office is:

Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

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