

**Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act – 2022.187  
Released – 11 October 2022**

Thank you for your email received 4 October 2022 requesting information regarding sexual health.

Please find detailed below a summary of your request, together with our response.

***Summary of your original request:***

***I would like to make an enquiry about a reported increase in young girls and women attending sexual health clinics with anal fissures from sexual intercourse. Do you have any data on this over 2021-2022?***

***I'm looking for stats on how many girls and women are attending clinics with anal tears currently, whether there has been an increase over the last 6 months to a year and what age groups are reporting such issues (numbers and percentages across age groups).***

Unfortunately this is not information that we are able to provide as we do not have a national code for this on GUMCAD, the mandatory surveillance system and system for the collection of data for STIs. In order to provide a response we would have to manually review every attendance record to see what has been recorded in the notes which would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt.

I have detailed below the relevant excerpt:

**Section 12**

12. — (1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

Chair John Goulston Chief Executive Mairead McCormick

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