



By email

enchantedlifepath

Our ref: 04/11/rp/1843

18 November 2020

Dear

Re: False Positive Test Results For Liverpool City Region

Thank you for your email dated 04 November 2020. In accordance with Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act), I can confirm that Public Health England (PHE) does not hold the information you have specified.

1) Can you provide documented evidence showing the number of false-positive coronavirus/COVID-19 tests that were submitted to government statistics from the City of Liverpool region that led to the local lockdown?

Public Health England can confirm it does not hold the information you have specified. This is because PHE does not record this information. Under Section 16 of the FOI Act, public authorities have a duty to provide advice and assistance. Under section 16 of the Act, public authorities have a duty to provide advice and assistance. Accordingly, I have provided some information below on false positive and negatives of COVID-19 RT-PCR tests which was provided to the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies in June 2020:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gos-impact-of-false-positives-and-negatives-3-june-2020>

2) Should Liverpool City Region Combined Authority be aware of the number of local coronavirus/COVID-19 test kits that have returned a false positive result whilst they are in negotiations with central government regarding the localised lockdown measures and the deployment of military to the region to assist in the mass testing pilot scheme that is being put in place from Thursday, November 5th, 2020?

This question is not valid under FOI, as it is not a request for recorded information.

If you have any queries regarding the information that has been supplied to you, please refer your query to in writing in the first instance. If you remain dissatisfied and would like to request an internal review, then please contact us at the address above or by emailing foi@phe.gov.uk.

Please note that you have the right to an independent review by the Information Commissioner's Office if a complaint cannot be resolved through the PHE complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner's Office can be contacted by

writing to Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

FOI Team