

Direct line:
Local fax:
Email:

By email

29 January 2014

Our Ref: FOI3852

Your Ref:

Dear

Freedom of Information : Right to know request

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act), for information about "*the average length of time that Skilled Persons Reports relating to insurance companies, and general insurance brokers, have remained open since 2012*". The full text of your request is in the Annex.

Your request has now been considered and the relevant information is below. Before I turn to your request I thought it would be useful to provide some background on the use of s166 Reports.

We use skilled person reviews to obtain an independent view of aspects of a firm's activities that, for example, cause us concern or where we require further analysis. Skilled person reviews are considered to be an effective regulatory tool and have a good record of mitigating risks to consumers. You can find more information on skilled person reports, including quarterly statistics here - <http://www.fca.org.uk/about/what/regulating/how-we-supervise-firms/reports-by-skilled-persons>

The table below details the data gathered regarding your information request.

Type of firm	Number of reviews from April 2012 to date	Average length of time.
Insurance companies	32	169 days
General insurance brokers	6	128 days

Notes to the table:

1. The definition of 'open' is taken to be the time that a draft section 166 requirement notice is sent to an authorised firm, to the date that the final report is delivered to the

- FCA by the skilled person (which would include any final close-out meeting relating to the section 166 between the FCA, skilled person and authorised firm).
2. As requested, this information excludes all current in-progress skilled person reviews in insurance companies and general insurance brokers.
 3. All time periods are measured in business days, i.e. a five day working week and excluding UK public holidays.
 4. Statistics on skilled person reports are recorded in financial year format, rather than by calendar year.

I trust this satisfies your request.

Yours sincerely

Information Access Team

Annex

SECTION 166 'skilled persons' report

I am interested in finding out the average length of time that 'skilled person reports' relating to insurance companies, and general insurance brokers, have remained 'open' since 2012.

Please define an 'open' skilled person's report (commissioned under Section 166) in a way that matches FCA's processes and can be tracked by you; my understanding of the process is that a completed skilled person's report can result in two possible scenarios:

- *After the skilled persons report has been received and reviewed by the FCA, the FCA decides that no further action will be taken and informs the skilled person or the firm concerned.*
- *The FCA holds a further meeting with either the firm concerned, the skilled persons, or both (if more than one meeting is required, please base your calculation on the date of the last meeting held).*

I do not need to know about any subsequent monitoring by the FCA of any issues raised by the skilled persons report. Please exclude any currently 'open' skilled persons reports from your figures.

If possible within the cost and time limits of the Freedom of Information Act, please also break the information down further and give separate figures for 'insurance companies' and 'insurance brokers'.

