

[REQUESTER NAME]

Ref: FOI-518

Sent via email only: [REQUESTER EMAIL]

27 April 2026

Dear [REQUESTER NAME],

1. Thank you for your email of 20 March 2026 in which you requested information from UK Anti-Doping ('UKAD') under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'). Specifically, your request was as follows:

"Covering a time period that spans 14 months from January 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026, I want to ask for:

- *total number of active cases/open investigations by UKAD involving cyclists relating to a potential ADRV. [Part 1]*
- *total number of closed or suspended cases involving cyclists relating to a potential ADRV. [Part 2]*
- *total number of AAFs recorded by UKAD in the sport of cycling. [Part 3]*
- *Of all the above requests, I also want a separate breakdown of the status of the cyclists – whether they are amateur or professional." [Part 4]*

2. On 27 March 2026, in response to a request from UKAD, you provided the following clarification in relation to the scope of your request:

"I am referring to male and female non-para cyclists. By "closed" or "suspended" I mea [sic] investigations which have been completed or paused/postponed.

Summary of Response

3. In relation to Parts 1 and 2 of your request, UKAD neither confirms nor denies that it holds the information requested. The detail of the basis for this response is set out below.
4. In relation to Part 3 of your request, UKAD confirms that it does not hold information pursuant to your request.

5. In relation to Part 4 of your request, UKAD relies on the same reasons provided in response to Part 1-3 of your request.

Response to Parts 1 and 2 of your request

6. UKAD neither confirms nor denies that it holds the information requested. In doing so, UKAD relies on the exemption in section 31 of the Act.

Section 31 – Law enforcement

7. Section 31 of the Act provides as follows:

Section 31 Law enforcement

(1) Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice—

...

(g) the exercise by any public authority of its functions for any of the purposes specified in subsection (2),

(2) The purposes referred to in subsection 1(g) to (i) are—

(b) the purpose of ascertaining whether any person is responsible for any conduct which is improper,

8. Section 31(3) of the Act further provides:

(3) The duty to confirm or deny does not arise if, or to the extent that, compliance with section 1(1)(a) would, or would be likely to, prejudice any of the matters mentioned in subsection (1).

Part 1 of your request

9. UKAD refuses to confirm or deny whether it holds the information requested at Part 1 of your request because to do so would prejudice UKAD's ability to exercise its functions for the purpose of ascertaining whether any person is responsible for any conduct which is improper, which in this context means committing an Anti-Doping Rule Violation ('ADRV') contrary to the UK Anti-Doping Rules ('ADR'). This purpose falls within the scope of section 31(2)(b) of the Act.
10. UKAD's position is any disclosure of the information sought at Part 1 of your request, including confirmation as to the existence of ongoing investigations (if any),

would undermine the integrity and effectiveness of its investigatory and broader regulatory functions, and so prejudice the ability to ascertain whether any person is responsible for committing an ADRV.

Part 2 of your request

11. ADR Article 7.13 provides:

Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, no charge may be brought against an Athlete or other Person in respect of an Anti-Doping Rule Violation unless they have been given the Notice of the Anti-Doping Rule Violation referenced in Article 7.8, or notification has been reasonably attempted, within ten (10) years of the date that the Anti-Doping Rule Violation is asserted to have occurred.

12. “Closed or suspended cases” (if any) remain subject to the ‘statute of limitations’ provision set out above.

13. Therefore, for the reasons provided in paragraphs 8 and 9 above, UKAD refuses to confirm or deny whether it holds the information requested at Part 2 of your request.

Public interest test

14. For similar reasons, UKAD considers that the public interest lies in not confirming or denying whether we hold information responsive to your request. UKAD of course recognises the importance of transparency and accountability in general and specifically in providing the public with more understanding of its responsibilities.

15. However, to do otherwise in response to your request would, in our view, genuinely risk undermining UKAD’s investigatory and broader regulatory functions across sport, including its responsibility to ensure anti-doping matters are handled confidentially until such time that they can be publicly disclosed in accordance with the ADR. There is an important public interest in the maintenance of an effective anti-doping regime – so that UKAD can work towards its public policy objective of eliminating doping in sport.

Response to Part 3 of your request

16. UKAD confirms that it does not hold information relevant to this part of your request.

Response to Part 4 of your request

17. In light of UKAD's responses to Parts 1 and 2 of your request, UKAD neither confirms nor denies whether it holds the corresponding information requested at Part 4.
18. In light of UKAD's response to Part 3 of your request, UKAD does not hold corresponding information requested at Part 4.

Conclusion

19. If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of this response and should be addressed via email to foi@ukad.org.uk. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any further communications.
20. 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: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "UK Anti-Doping".

UK Anti-Doping