

## **F-2012-00040 – The use of HFEA powers of entry 2008-2011**

20 February 2012

### **Summary of request**

The Authority was asked for details of the use of powers of entry by the HFEA, in particular how many times such powers were used in the past three years, the legislation they were requested under, the criminal offence or allegation being investigated, and the outcome of their use, if any.

### **HFEA response**

Paragraphs 3 and 4 of Schedule 3B of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990 (as amended) provide for 'Entry and inspection of premises'. Information about the number of inspections carried out is published in the Authority's annual reports, available on the HFEA website (<http://www.hfea.gov.uk/146.html>). As the information requested is reasonably accessible via the HFEA website, it is exempt from disclosure under section 21 FOIA.

Paragraph 5 of Schedule 3B of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990 (as amended) provides for 'Entry and search in connection with suspected offence' under a warrant issued by a justice of the peace. The Authority has not applied for nor executed any warrants during the last 3 years.