

## Committee Paper

<b>Committee:</b>	Authority
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	9 May 2007
<b>Agenda Item:</b>	8.
<b>Paper Number:</b>	HFEA (09/05/07) 372
<b>Paper Title:</b>	Report on 'opening the register' requests
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<b>For Information or Decision?</b>	Information
<b>Resource Implications:</b>	<i>None</i>
<b>Implementation timescales</b>	
<b>Communication</b>	
<b>Organisational Risk</b>	
<b>Recommendation to the Authority:</b>	<i>To note the contents of the paper which identifies a manageable number of requests at the present time</i>
<b>Evaluation</b>	
<b>Annexes</b>	

### Opening The Register requests received in 2006

Figure 1 graphically shows the breakdown of requests received by the member of staff dealing with "Opening The Register" requests received and processed during 2006 (grouped by type of request). In total, there were 171 requests, which came to us through 248 items of correspondence including fax, email, letters, etc. As in previous years, many of the requests/questions were general in nature asking for clarification of our policies and the types of information which might be made available.

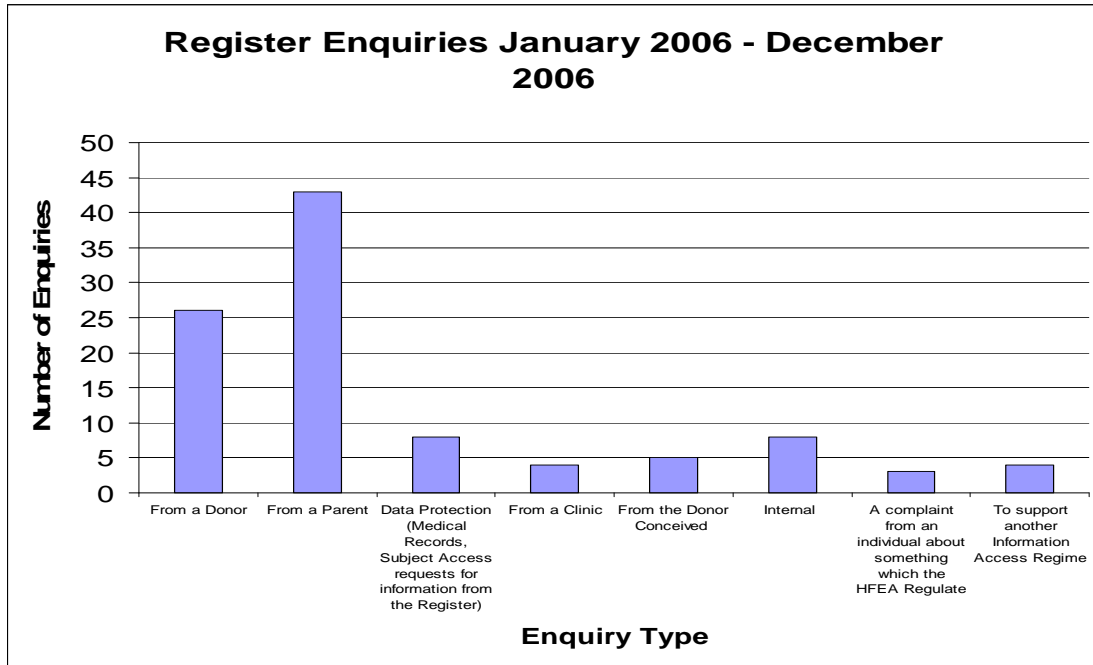


Figure 1

Overall, the numbers remain relatively small. We have yet to see the possible upsurge resulting from donor conceived individuals who are reaching the age of 18. The feedback received about the service continues to be positive in the main. The small number of complaints received challenge the policies in place and ask us to extend the boundaries beyond our legal limitations.

The most popular request is from parents of the donor conceived who are starting to talk to their child about how they were created and would like to be able to supply or confirm the anonymous information about the donor used. The next most popular request is from donors wishing to know how many children have been born as a result of their donation.

**Pre Act Requests**

We continue to receive a small number of pre-Act requests from offspring wanting information about their donor(s). Where records have been received from closed centres by the HFEA, we have been able to supply limited information to the requestor but they are simply referred to UK DonorLink (UKDL).

**Opening The Register requests received in 2007**

To date, 6 requests have been received and processed though one of these has generated quite a lot of communication since the requestor has asked for details of an overseas treatment to be applied to the Register (which is outside of the remit of the HFEA).