

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

e-mail: freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Our Ref: IR257Review of FOI 5132

11th April 2013

Dear Tim Batchelor

You requested an internal review of FOI 5132: request "Information returned from cookies on Universal Jobmatch"

The review was conducted by an independent official of the Department, of the relevant grade and authority to carry out such requests. The case has been examined afresh, and guidance has been sought from specialist areas to ensure all factors were taken fully into account.

I have examined the procedures leading up to your request being answered and can confirm that correct processes and procedures were followed when dealing with your Freedom of information Request but that a mistake was made when the final response was issued to you and you did not receive all the information you had asked for.

This was due to an administrative error when the attachment containing the information you had requested on cookies was not attached. I apologise for this oversight and the document is attached as an annexe to this response.

We received your original Freedom of Information request on 28.12.12 and a request for an Internal Review of the handling of the case on 28.01.13 as you had not received a response from the Department. This was replied to on 1.03.13 apologising for the delay in issuing the full response and explained that this was due to the unexpected level of Freedom of Information requests received and that guidance had to be sought from a number of specialist areas to ensure all factors were taken fully into account. We advised you that a response would be made by 20.03.13 and the final response was issued to you on 15.03.13. Whilst the response was not sent to you within the 20 working day statutory time limit (it should have been sent by the 24th January) I am satisfied that we have complied with guidance on dealing with responses by giving you a timescale for the final response.

You also expressed concern about the response you received relating to Web trends on demand (WTOD) and third party cookies. I can confirm that the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) considers WTOD cookies not to be third party cookies. This is because the Universal Jobmatch service is managed by Monster working on behalf of the Department for Work and Pensions. DWP has asked Monster to conduct analysis of the use of Universal Jobmatch and Monster have sub-contracted with WTOD to deliver this, with DWP's agreement. WTOD store and process this data for DWP purposes only and DWP, as owners of the Universal Jobmatch website, remains responsible for complying with the Privacy and Electronic Communications (EU Directive) Regulations 2003 in respect of such processing.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact the DWP Central FoI Team quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central FoI Team

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF www.ico.gov.uk