

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

e-mail: [freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)

Our Ref: VTR5181

11 December 2014

Dear Trudy Baddams,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 27 November 2014. You asked:

*What is the level of benefit for a family of three with an under 5 year old? i.e. the amount the government says they need to live on*

The government does not set specific benefit levels for each claimant and their family but rather the level of each benefit, which is reviewed annually and set out in:

- The Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order, which for the current year can be found at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2014/516/made>
- The Welfare Benefits Up-rating Order, which for the current year can be found at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2014/147/contents/made>
- The Child Benefit and Tax Credits Up-rating Order, which for the current year can be found at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2014/147/contents/made>

The level of benefit that a person can be awarded depends upon their individual circumstances and can only be properly determined when a claim is made.

The different types of benefit available can be found in the 'Benefits' section of GOV.UK, which can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/browse/benefits>. This includes a section on Benefits Calculators that indicate what benefits you may be entitled to and how to claim, this can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/benefits-calculators>.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Fol Team

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**Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act**

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing [freedom-of-information-request@dwpgsi.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dwpgsi.gov.uk) or by writing to DWP, Central Fol Team, Caxton House, Tothill Street, SW1H 9NA. Any review request should be submitted within two months of the date of this letter.

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.org.uk/Global/contact\\_us](http://www.ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us) or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745