

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: VTR 5260

Date: 29 December 2014

Dear Anita Bellows,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 4 December 2014. You asked:

*Dear DWP Strategy Freedom of Information, Thank you for your response. I realise that I did not formulate my question in a way to elicit a meaningful response.*

*What I would like to know:*

*In any of the mandatory work programme schemes, the number of starts is always lower than the number of referrals. I would like to know what reasons, apart from 'not turning for work' explain the discrepancies in numbers. Has DWP commissioned any reports or compiled statistics on this? If so, could you tell me where I can find them. For example, what is the number or percentage of inappropriate referrals ? Any information on this will be welcome.*

Following referral to mandatory programmes, claimants make the decision not to participate for various reasons. Some claimants do so to enter work. Others do so because of a change in circumstances – meaning they leave benefit or move to a different benefit.

There are several published reports on the DWP programmes that require participants to work for host employers as a condition of their continued benefit receipt. The following – which include discussion of the reasons why people do not start placements, and include both quantitative and qualitative evidence - should be of interest:

#### Mandatory Work Activity (MWA)

- Evaluation of MWA (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/evaluation-of-mandatory-work-activity-rr823>)
- Early impacts of MWA. (<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/mandatory-work-activity--2>)

#### Support for the Very Long Unemployed Trailblazer (SVLTU)

- Evaluation of SVLTU (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/evaluation-of-support-for-the-very-long-term-unemployed-trailblazer-rr824>)
- Longer term analysis of benefit impacts (<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/support-for-the-very-long-term-unemployed-trailblazer>)

#### Day One Support for Young People (DOSfYP) Trailblazer

- Evaluation of DOSfYP (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/day-one-support-for-young-people-trailblazer>)
- Preliminary impact analysis (<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/day-one-support-for-young-people-trailblazer-impact-analysis>)

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Strategy 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