

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: VTR 4838

DATE: 10 October 2013

Dear Wendy Wilson,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 09 October. You asked for:-

With the new system set to start from April 2014 (i.e. work for your JSA) it is stated that Job seekers will have to work for 30 hours a week.

As the National Minimum wage is currently £6.31 per hour -

And as JSA is currently £71.70 per week -

This means that to have to work for your dole of £71.70 per week at the rate of the National Minimum wage of £6.31 - this equates to 11.36 hours only.

Will the DWP please confirm why anyone should have to work for just over 18 and a half hours a week - for absolutely nothing?

If anyone does so they are a mug, because if they work 30 hours a week for £71.70 this means that they will be working for the equivalent of £2.30 an hour.

Would YOU millionaires do that?

No - then why should anyone else?

You can expect a reply by 06 November unless I need to come back to you to clarify your request or the balance of the public interest test needs to be considered.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Fol Team

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 or by writing to DWP, Central FoI 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.gov.uk