

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

e-mail: freedom-of-information-rexxxxx@xxx.xxx.xxx.xx

Our Ref: VTR 402

08 February 2012

Dear Ms Peake,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 30th of January 2012

You requested the following information:

Please would you send me a list of every employer signed up to the "Positive About Disabled People" scheme along with a breakdown in percentage terms of the involvement of each employment sector? If you are not under an obligation to provide me with this information please would you let me know how many employers are signed up to the "Positive About Disabled People" scheme and which sectors they represent? Could you please also explain why this information is not freely available or if it is available somewhere and I have missed it, where to find it? Allow me to suggest that it would make life a great deal easier for disabled people if you were to promote this scheme and consolidate this information so disabled jobseekers could see at a glance which employers were disabled-friendly. It would also lead to less hatred and harassment of disabled people if the facts were out there.

I have attached the list of employers currently holding the Disability Symbol. I am sorry this is not broken down by employment sector.

We have not previously considered making the list freely available externally due to the changing nature of the information contained – all employers are reviewed annually to ensure they continue to warrant symbol status and employers are added to and removed from the list almost continually. However, in the light of your request and the potential benefits you have highlighted, we will look more closely at the practicalities involved in making the information freely available.

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@dwp.gsi.gov.uk or by writing to DWP, Central Fol Team, 5th Floor The Adelphi, 1-11, John Adam Street, London WC2N 6HT. 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