Dear Jason Davies,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 10 November 2012. You asked:

*Please refer to your response to a FOI request from a Mr Frank Zola, your ref: VTR3460, that can also be seen here: [http://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/organisations_that_have_withdraw?post_redirect=1](http://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/organisations_that_have_withdraw?post_redirect=1)*

In that response you state, "The majority of the public, including job seekers, support the Government’s back to work policies. However, there is a small minority whose websites aim to thwart back to work schemes by targeting employers to discourage them from participating."

*Please provide all evidence that supports and substantiates your assertion that "...job seekers, support the Government’s back to work policies."

Specifically please provide any and all evidence that supports your assertion that job seekers support MWA, the Work Programme and the soon to be introduced CAP (all of which fall into the category of back to work policies).

In his decision notice of 30 August 2012, the Information Commissioner noted that the impact of the campaigns organised by a few fringe groups is arguable and that "most members of the public are likely to be unaware of the particular charges that have been levelled by these sites"; by implication, that the sites and their campaigns do not represent the majority opinion.

The full text of the decision notice can be viewed via the following link [http://www.ico.gov.uk/~media/documents/decisionnotices/2012/fs_50438037.ashx](http://www.ico.gov.uk/~media/documents/decisionnotices/2012/fs_50438037.ashx); I direct you to paragraph 48 in particular.

In addition to incorporating the above, the statement that you refer to in your request reflects the Government’s position that there is general support amongst the electorate for its deficit reduction measures which include welfare reform and its back to work policies. The Government’s Get Britain Working measures aim to provide people with the support and advice that they may need in order to move into, or back into, work. These measures can be viewed via this link [http://www.dwp.gov.uk/adviser/updates/get-britain-working/](http://www.dwp.gov.uk/adviser/updates/get-britain-working/).
Research conducted by, and on behalf of, the Department consistently notes that the majority of jobseekers provide positive feedback and comment in the support for the Government’s welfare-to-work policies provided through Jobcentre Plus; the Department for Work and Pensions; and through their contracted partners. Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act allows us to direct you to information that is already reasonably accessible to you; the Department’s published research and evaluation reports can be accessed via the following link http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rrs-index.asp.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central FoI 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@dwp.gsi.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