



Department  
for Work &  
Pensions

DWP Central Freedom of  
Information Team  
Caxton House  
6-12 Tothill Street  
London  
SW1H 9NA

Owen Stevens  
request-903282-1daeec26@whatdotheyknow.com

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

[DWP Website](#)

Our Ref: FOI2022/76366

21 October 2022

Dear Owen Stevens,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 28 September. You wrote:

“An Equality Analysis has been undertaken on the amendments to the Universal Credit Regulations 2013 to raise the Administrative Earnings Threshold: [https://secure-web.cisco.com/1qWRpAsUI1I0ISHd4Ns5IPH0mXWU\\_GaSSics06ViFq6Tde1wIAAs2ZiM\\_JdXdBanbadXzLVRyoypatQ3M4Be4ruhjRMmSTn7xEtOZtw3NdnDZepNBJ7HJUvv77A5053tMJ3hM5O8OZcLJNW\\_Nos7e98dCdKiMMgvPyB1iqueDm3xvQtQEBqZx2simkPjFE\\_WzcDo126NZcZSdjK2GT8oWJv76GZQ5Bh\\_JtbgWwCUZF1DoJXMIScW Hof68kbXx2R-Z8rYwvZsGLxFoVogqUmWONOVWwwCx1sIrVOSW42k9I7eIRgcUHFdVs596UBMj4a93HZwz6cqOufzfXT4GRR6wIQ/https%3A%2F%2Fquestions-statements.parliament.uk%2Fwritten-questions%2Fdetail%2F2022-09-06%2F48353](https://secure-web.cisco.com/1qWRpAsUI1I0ISHd4Ns5IPH0mXWU_GaSSics06ViFq6Tde1wIAAs2ZiM_JdXdBanbadXzLVRyoypatQ3M4Be4ruhjRMmSTn7xEtOZtw3NdnDZepNBJ7HJUvv77A5053tMJ3hM5O8OZcLJNW_Nos7e98dCdKiMMgvPyB1iqueDm3xvQtQEBqZx2simkPjFE_WzcDo126NZcZSdjK2GT8oWJv76GZQ5Bh_JtbgWwCUZF1DoJXMIScW Hof68kbXx2R-Z8rYwvZsGLxFoVogqUmWONOVWwwCx1sIrVOSW42k9I7eIRgcUHFdVs596UBMj4a93HZwz6cqOufzfXT4GRR6wIQ/https%3A%2F%2Fquestions-statements.parliament.uk%2Fwritten-questions%2Fdetail%2F2022-09-06%2F48353)

- 1) Please provide the Equality Analysis for the increase to the AET which took effect on 26/09/2022
- 2) Please also provide the Equality Analysis for the further increase to the AET which is planned for January 2023 (as set out at para 4.30 of the Growth Plan 2022)”

## DWP Response

### Request 1

We confirm that we do hold the information you have requested that relates to *The Universal Credit (Administrative Earnings Threshold) (Amendment) Regulations 2022*. <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukSI/2022/886/regulation/2/made>.

A copy of the *Equality Analysis for Raising the Administrative Earnings Threshold (AET)* is attached.

Expanding the number of benefit claimants on low earnings that will be expected to meet regularly with a work coach and take steps to increase their earnings will help ensure people are progressing.

The change is part of the Government’s in work progression agenda, supporting claimants into work and up the career ladder.

The disclosed document has where appropriate, been redacted to remove information which is exempt under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as personal information belonging to an individual other than the requester.

Section 40(2) exempts information in response to a request if it is personal data belonging to an individual other than the requester and it satisfies one of the conditions listed in the legislation. In this case the condition contained in section 40(3A)(a) applies - that disclosure would breach one of the data protection principles, specifically that "Personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner...".

We do not consider that disclosing this information is necessary or justified in order to satisfy your information request and the requirements of the FoI Act. In relation to this request, we consider that there is no strong legitimate interest that would override the prejudice to the rights and freedoms of the data subject.

Personal data are subject to General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018

## Request 2

We confirm that we do not hold the information you have requested.

In the interest of being helpful and provided outside of our obligation of the FoI Act you may find the following helpful:

- We will be undertaking an Equality Analysis for the further increase to the AET in due course.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team  
Department for Work and Pensions

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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@dw.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dw.gov.uk) or by writing to: DWP Central FoI Team, Caxton House, 6-12 Tothill Street, London, 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.

Website: [ICO FOI and EIR complaints](#) or telephone 0303 123 1113.