



Department
for Work &
Pensions

DWP Central Freedom of Information
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[DWP Website](#)

Our Ref: FOI2022/93172

Date: 20 December 2022

Dear Charles Ellinson,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 21 November. You wrote:

“At Autumn Statement 2022 it was announced that the government will proceed with the national rollout of the In-Work Progression (“IWP”) offer within Universal Credit starting from Sep 2023.

Please can you provide any documents and information held by the Department relating to IWP and its rollout nationally. This includes:

a) details of what IWP will mean for UC claimants in terms of claimant responsibilities and potential sanctions.

b) details of how the rollout is planned to take place, and how it will interact with the Light Touch Regime (which is the conditionality regime for claimants earning in excess of the Administrative Earnings Threshold (“AET“)).

For example, will the rollout involve a gradual increase in the level of the AET, until the AET is removed completely?”

DWP Response

We can confirm that the Department holds the information you are seeking.

However, we are engaging an exemption from disclosure under Section 22 of the Fol Act as the information is intended for publication at a future date.

As required by the Fol Act the use of this qualified exemption requires the public interest for and against disclosure to be assessed.

We recognise that there is public interest in the in-work progression announcement made at the Autumn Statement, and that release of the information would provide greater transparency in this area, including further details of who this policy will impact, and how it will be delivered when introduced from September 2023, especially given the recent interest.

Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act allows us to direct you to information that is reasonably accessible to you, as it is already in the public domain, to be helpful, the following links may be useful as they contain further key data/evidence sources on the future in-work

claimant group and show results of a trial carried out to test the effectiveness of differing intensities of support and conditionality provided to current Universal Credit claimants in low-paid work or low-income households:

[The Future Cohort Study: understanding Universal Credit's future in-work claimant group \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

[Summary: Universal Credit: in-work progression randomised controlled trial \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

The information contained in the following Freedom of Information response and ad-hoc statistical release for the recent changes to the Administrative Earnings Threshold are of relevance as they provide information about the in-work Universal Credit caseload:

[EA for raising the AET - a Freedom of Information request to Department for Work and Pensions - WhatDoTheyKnow](#)

[Numbers moved to Universal Credit's Intensive Work Search Regime because of the increase in the Administrative Earnings Threshold - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

There are currently no plans to raise the Administrative Earnings Threshold (AET) beyond the equivalent of 15 hours at the national living wage (NLW).

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team
Department for Work and Pensions

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.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.