

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: IR2019/04901

22 February 2019

S Groves

request-545784-da730e26@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear S Grove,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) internal review request received on 1 February 2019, asking for a review of your original request FOI 02564.

You asked:

This FOI request has not been completed to a satisfactory level. It is not clear exactly which Act and section allows the DWP to transfer the highly personal details of people who are claimants but not in receipt of job seekers allowance to organisations working for the DWP (who the DWP have contracts in place that do not define any staff vetting). I want the exact details of the exact sections of the law that allows the DWP to treat individual's personal information with such a low level of care.

DWP Response:

In response to your request, I can confirm that the handling of your original request and response has now been appropriately reviewed and that I was unconnected with the handling of your original request.

In reviewing your request I uphold the decision of the Freedom of Information Officer in full.

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has provided the requested information by explaining that DWP is allowed to share information about claimants, including those who are claimants but not in receipt of Jobseeker's Allowance, under Schedule 2 & 3 of the Data Protection Act 1998, Regulation 13 (4) of the Social Security (Claims and Information) Regulations 1999/3108 and Section 72 of the Welfare Reform Act.

I am, therefore, satisfied that the original response was handled properly and that the outcome of your request was correct and that all the available information that DWP are able to supply to you has been supplied.

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

Yours sincerely,

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

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

https://ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745