

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: VTR IR248

DATE 21 May 2012

Dear Mr Johnson,

Thank you for your request received 20 April 2012 to review the reply to your Freedom of Information (Fol) request reference 1290. I have reviewed your original request and the information that was supplied to you. You asked:

I am writing to request an internal review of Department for Work and Pensions's handling of my FOI request 'All participation in Work Experience with commercial organisations will be done on a voluntary basis in the Work Programme'.

You have not provided any responses connected to the Work Programme (WP), Mandatory Work Activity (MWA), Community Action Programme (CAP), you have only chosen to provide information connected to the Youth Contract (YC).

The original request was:

Dear Department for Work and Pensions,

Minister Chris Grayling said

"They have the power to mandate but they will only mandate to community benefit projects. All participation in Work Experience with commercial organisations will be done on a voluntary basis in the Work Programme as well as through Jobcentre Plus. So we have exactly the same rules applied across the board and we are making sure all the guidance is in line with that."

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201012/cmselect/cmworpen/uc1903/uc190301.htm>

Can you supply all the Work Programme (WP), Mandatory Work Activity (MWA), Community Action Programme (CAP) and Youth Contract (YC) guidance and rules that the Minister says now exist across the board, that support the quotes above.

Can you supply information you hold that states that it is now unsuitable to make it Mandatory to participate in "community benefit" projects that have any element of contributing to the Profit of the Work Experience host organisation, as this would be commercial for profit activity?

Yours faithfully,
Jeremy Johnson

This review was conducted by an independent official of the Department, of the relevant grade and authority to carry out such requests.

I have examined your FoI request and sought further information to ensure all factors were taken fully into account and I am content that the original response addressed the issues that you raised by directing you to information that is reasonably accessible to you by other means.

You should note that Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act allows us to direct you to information which is already reasonably accessible to you by other means.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central FoI Team

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 www.ico.gov.uk