

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: VTR 23

26/1/15

Dear Ian Wolf,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 2/1/15. You asked:

*Please disclose to me via email a copy of any policy paper produced by the Behaviour Insights Team/Nudge Unit/Behaviour Insights Ltd (hereafter collectively referred to as BIT) for minister's and senior officials of the Department of Work and Pension/Jobcentre Plus (JCP) during 2014. Plus a copy of any business plan or similar for work currently being undertaken with BIT and commissioned by the DWP/JCP.*

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.

The Department does not keep a centrally collated record of which external partners or organisations different policy or deliver teams deal with as part of their day to day running of the business. In order to comply with your request we would need to ask every division in the business if they held the information you are asking for.

We estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £600. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

It is possible that we may hold information falling within the description specified in your request. But to the best of our current knowledge (as of Jan 5<sup>th</sup> 2015) there are no policy papers produced by BIT. Nor, has any work been commissioned by DWP/JCP from BIT.

Under section 16 of the FOIA we are obliged to assist you in providing options to narrow your request, by reforming or refocusing it, so that it will fall beneath the cost limit. It may help if I outline some possible ways to do this by seeking information about a specific piece of work or report the Behavioural Insights team has worked on and over a specific time period. The DWP will then be happy to consider your request afresh. However, we should advise that the DWP cannot guarantee that any revised request will be within the cost limit.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Fol 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@dwpgsi.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dwpgsi.gov.uk) or by writing to DWP, Central Fol 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.org.uk/Global/contact\\_us](http://www.ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us) or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745