

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: VTR 3907

Date: 02 September 2013

Dear Mr Zola,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 15 August 2013. You asked:-

In FOI 451/2013

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/209385/foi-2451-2013.pdf

you refer to a Claimant Commitment (CC) as "one centred on a contractual concept", can you therefore confirm that the full gamut of Contract Law will apply to everyone's CC? Or do you mean by use of the word "concept" you do not mean that use of the word "contractual" has anything whatsoever to do with the commonly understood word:

Contract?

"A contract is an agreement having a lawful object entered into voluntarily by two or more parties, each of whom intends to create one or more legal obligations"

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contract>

Law:

<https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=contract+law>

You have indicated that you want your request received on 15 August to be treated as a Freedom of Information request.

Anyone can request copies of information which a public authority already holds in a recorded form, but the Freedom of Information Act does not require the Department to provide opinions or explanations, generate answers to questions, or create or obtain information it does not hold.

Your request asks a series of questions which would require answers to be generated and also requests legal advice, which we are not obliged to provide under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

However, given that you are seeking clarification of a previous Freedom of Information response, you may find the following information helpful.

I can confirm that the Department deliberately did not refer to a legal contract in the previous Freedom of Information response. Rather, we referred to a contractual concept because the Claimant Commitment is intended to be about a very specific two-way bargain: claimants are provided with financial support; and in return for that financial support we expect them to do everything that they can to prepare for and find work.

The Department is committed to providing claimants with help to find work, more work or better paid work for those who can work whilst supporting those that cannot work.

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Fol Team

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 or by writing to DWP, Central Fol Team, Caxton House, 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 www.ico.gov.uk