

**Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)**  
**Central Freedom of Information Team**

freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

**Our reference:** IR613

**Date:** 23 December 2014

Dear R Davis

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) review request, which we received on 5 December 2014.

I am of a senior grade to the person who dealt with your request previously, and can confirm that I have carried out an internal review. I am now in a position to respond to you.

You asked in your review request why we failed to respond by the 20 November 2014, which you believe was in contravention of the law by more than two weeks. You also ask for an explanation of why we are taking longer to provide a response to your original request for information.

After reviewing this case I am content that your original request was dealt with in accordance with DWP guidelines for FOI requests. Your request was received on 08.11.14 from which we have 20 working days to respond to meet our statutory obligation. A Public Interest Test letter was issued to you on the 05.12.14, 20 working days from receipt of your response, notifying you of our intention to extend the deadline. I am also informed the appropriate clearance was granted on this extension.

You also asked who wrote the letter dated 5th December 2014 and their grade, that this be escalated and the name and grade of that person. I am unable to disclose this personal information as the following section applies from the FOI Act 2000;

*"Personal information about a third party is treated as exempt information under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is because personal information is treated under the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998 and can only be released to you where such disclosure would not breach that person's right to privacy. The Department for Work and Pensions will not therefore disclose personal information to you about members of staff in this instance".*

I am now in a position to provide the information you originally requested and this has been issued today 23 December 2014 as Fol request 4905.

I hope this is helpful but 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