

01 March 2016

Dear Cllr Natalie Reeves

**Freedom of Information ref: 2015-IR534**

Thank you for your request for an internal review of your Freedom of Information request 2015-3503 which was answered on 13 October 2015.

You asked:

**“You have failed to respond to my FOI request dated 22nd August regarding the cost of appealing the Information Commissioners decision to publish ESA deaths.**

**In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act this should have been received by now. I'm sure you dont want to waste further taxpayers money incurring further fines for failing to adhere to the law.”**

In your original request you asked:

**“please can you send me the total cost to date to the DWP associated with the Information Commissioner's decision FS50557638. regarding mortality of claimants in the context of Incapacity Benefit and Employment and Support Allowance state benefits**

**This includes but is not limited to  
costs of staff working on this request,  
cost of legal advice  
cost of appeal**

**and any other costs incurred”**

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 confirm that I have considered your request afresh. In conducting my review, I have discussed the original reply, the handling and the decisions on what can be provided with the officer who drafted it.

Your original request was received on 22 August 2015 and a reply was due by 21 September 2015 so we failed to respond in the statutory time limit of 20 working days and for this I apologise.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact us 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 <https://ico.org.uk/>