

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: Fol 2930

DATE: 8 August 2017

Dear Mr. Stern,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 11th July 2017. You asked:

What is the cost to the benefit system of disability/carers allowance/respite & social fund care etc to children born with birth defects due to first-cousin marriages in certain communities & cultures within North Staffordshire.

In respect of your question, the information you requested is not held by the Department.

This is because we do not routinely collect information on parents or carers for children claiming benefits in the requested amount of detail. In addition, the circumstances that result in a particular main disabling condition are not routinely collected by the department.

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

Yours sincerely

DWP Strategy 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@dwp.gsi.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.gov.uk