

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: VTR 5908

Date: 14 January 2014

Dear Rafe Orchard,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received 19 December 2014. You asked;

Thanks for the reply VTR 5729, do share with me regulations or legislation that does/would "require" someone to have a CV, done Work Search and registered on Universal Jobmatch before they become eligible for benefits when making a new claim. Does this apply to JSA and Universal Credit? When did or will these requirements come into force, do they need new regulations or legislation? Where are these requirements being piloted?

introducing upfront work search.

This will require all claimants to do more right from the start of their claim, including the period before they become eligible for financial support. At their first application for benefits, claimants will be asked to write a CV, register with the Government's new Universal Jobmatch service, and start looking for work.

Claimants will have longer initial interviews with Jobcentre advisors to support this. This is one part of a 'work first' approach to welfare, and reflects successful reforms in other countries that have asked more of claimants at the start of their claim

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/209036/spending-round-2013-complete.pdf

Claimants will be asked (rather than required) to do these actions prior to their first appointment to get them set up as a jobseeker - if they haven't done them when they attend their first appointment they will be mandated to do so where appropriate. Once a claimant is eligible for benefit, the Jobseekers Act (1995) applies. These requirements will not be piloted.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central FoI 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, 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