

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: VTR 2056

22 July 2015

Dear Mr Fraser,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 20 May 2015, my apologies for the delay in replying to you. You asked:

Firstly, could you list the Non-Dependant information you require in Universal Credit?

Secondary, I understand you start data sharing among you DWP, HMRC and Local Council in Universal Credit, then could you list the personal information of Non Dependant you do automatic data sharing under normal circumstances (not under special circumstances such as fraud investigation)?

What we presume are;

1) From HMRC: All the past Employer / Earning History / Tax & NIC history / HMRC related benefits history like Tax Credit

2) From DWP: All the past DWP related benefits history such as JSA, Income Support Allowance etc.

3) From Local Council: All the past Local Council related benefits like HB & Council Tax Support etc.

Please amend or add any other information list you share.

Lastly, could you list up the special circumstances cases that allow you to make more data sharing than the above normal circumstance?

In answer to the questions you have raised, Universal Credit (UC) currently collects the following information for non-dependants:

- First Name
- Last Name
- Date of Birth
- Gender
- Relationship to the claimant(s)
- Are they in education?
- When did they start education?
- Are they still in the household?

2. Automatic Data sharing

- HMRC – Universal Credit does not routinely receive or share information from HMRC in respect of non-dependents, nor does it share any with them.

- DWP – We share all the information with the LA regarding existing and closed legacy benefits that is relevant to the LA for the claimant(s) only.
- LA – DWP and HMRC data is provided to LAs by DWP for the limited purposes of administering HB, and any specific service or provision of a prescribed welfare service or local council tax reduction scheme. Currently this is limited to:
Housing Benefit
Local Council Tax Reduction schemes (LCTR)
Local welfare provision (LWP).

DWP published the following in April 2014 – Guidance for local authorities on the use of social security data. This can be accessed from the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/data-sharing-guidance-for-local-authorities>

3. Any information held could also be subject to wider data sharing powers the Department and other organisations have. You can find out more in the Departments data protection pages here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/about/personal-information-charter>

If there are special circumstances these will have been arranged separately and will not be via automated routes.

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

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, 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 or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745