

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref:IR543

10 July 2013

Dear Mr Moore,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 27 June 2013.

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 us:-

'Thank you for the information, however I would like to clarify: the DWP had not, at the time the staff member gave the advice, had sight of any documents or assessments except for the hospital discharge form. To date, no assessment by ATOS has been carried out, and we have not been informed of any approach to our GP by the DWP or any of its sister agencies. I ask again, and to further clarify: we are not talking about disability, we are talking about post-operative incapacity and outpatient recuperation, how does someone not qualified in any shape or form to make such determination, decide that someone in such condition is fit for work? I feel this may have to go to some sort of hearing, as what has occurred is extremely irregular going by the information you have given here.'

I am content that, on the basis of the information you supplied, your original request was dealt with in accordance with DWP guidelines for FOI requests. However, I would suggest that additional information, addressing the specific circumstances outlined in your further enquiry, could be better answered by the local office handling your wife's claim. You will need to supply them with your wife's national insurance number and her written authority allowing them to divulge information to you. Unfortunately, as you have not provided your wife's details, I am unable to provide the address or telephone number of the relevant local office but these should be shown at the top of any letters your wife received from them.

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 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