

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: 2031

28 May 2013

Dear Mr Barsby,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 30th April 2013. You asked for:-

I am writing to request all information about the efficacy of the 'My Strengths' (<http://www.behaviourlibrary.com/strengths.php>) test, from any internal external memos, emails, faxes and any other correspondence.

With specific regard to:

- 1. Does the test provide a constant measure of characteristics despite background fluctuations?*
- 2. Do the results reflect an accurate measure of a persons ability?*
- 3. Does the test have any test-retest reliability?*
- 4. How internally consistent are the questions on the test with regards to characteristics and qualities?*
- 4.1 How was the Cronbach's alpha determined?*

And lastly,

Could you provide an itemised breakdown of the cost of the 'My Strengths' test, from idea, inception, development, testing, delivery and current maintenance and hosting.

We can confirm that this response has been drafted in conjunction with the Behavioural Insights Team at the Cabinet Office who are responsible for the piloting of this tool. For any technical queries relating to this issue please contact:

Correspondence Team
70 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AS

Email publiccorrespondence@cabinet-office.gsi.gov.uk

General enquiries 020 7276 1234

Cabinet Office have confirmed that 'My Strengths' is based on a wide area of academic research. This research shows that helping people self-identify their strengths can be a useful part of a portfolio of tools that help improve wellbeing. For further information you may want to contact the above.

We can confirm that there were no procurement or development costs to DWP for this specific programme.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP | Operations

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, London, 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