

To Mr R Jarvis
C/o request-113000-08a89cf6@whatdotheyknow.com

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

e-mail: freedom-of-information-xxxxxxx@xxx.xxx.xx

Our Ref: VTR3673-IR496

DATE 7 September 2012

Dear Mr Jarvis,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 9 August 2012 that was received by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Freedom Of Information Requests and forwarded for response by DWP Medical Services Contracts Correspondence Team (MSCCT) Freedom of Information (Fol) Internal Reviewing Officer (IRO).

In your email you asked to be provided with information answering the following questions:-

I am writing to request an internal review of Department for Work and Pensions's handling of my FOI request 'ESA and the Work RelatedActivity Group'.

It has been 4 months since I submitted this request, and during this period of time, I have only received automated responses acknowledging my communications.

The MSCCT Fol IRO has read your letter and accepted this as a request for an Internal Review in order to check that the handling of your request was dealt with appropriately.

Your request which is referenced (FOI 3139-1563) was sent by you to the Department at 2.36am on 9 April 2012.

The Freedom of Information (Fol) Act allows 20 working days from date of receipt of the request in which to respond. MSCCT endeavours to answer promptly and wherever possible within the 20 day deadline, unless the deadline is extended to consider if an exemption applies.

The 20 working day deadline for your request was 9 May and it is noted that the response has not yet been issued to you via the What Do They Know website. In this instance, the Department has failed to respond within the 20 working days and MSCCT apologises for the significant delay, in providing a response to you, which it is now anticipated will be issued to you by September 12.

In reviewing your request the MSCCT Fol IRO upholds your complaint as the Department has failed to respond to your request within 20 days.

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 xx@xxx.xxx.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