Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Central Freedom of Information Team

Our reference: VTR 4671 Date: 29 October 2014

Dear Mr Smith,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 22nd October. You asked:

- Can you please confirm people on ESA national insurance credits only are not required to attend work focused interviews even if an appointment is made for them.
- 2) Can you please confirm people on ESA national insurance credits only are not required to attend work work-related activities.
- 3) What sanctions or consequences, if any, can be expected for people on ESA credits only for not attending such an interview or not taking part in work-related activities?

Response

- 1) I can confirm that ESA claimants in receipt of National Insurance Credits only are not required to attend work focused interviews, even if an appointment is made for them.
- 2) I can confirm that ESA claimants in receipt of National Insurance Credits only are not required to undertake Work Related Activity.
- 3) I can confirm that there are no sanctions or consequences if an ESA claimant in receipt of National Insurance Credits only, either fails to attend a work focused interview or fails to undertake Work Related Activity.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact us 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@dwp.gsi.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