

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

freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

**Our reference:** FOI2018/01106 and FOI IR426

**Date:** 28 August 2018

Dear Anthony Collins

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request and review request received on 7 August. You asked:

a-Please confirm DWP have no bulletins, updates or notices to either decision makers or assessors, detailing ESA list of aids and appliances and adaptations.

For example a stool used in the kitchen is not considered an aid, but a perching stool used in the kitchen as issued by a OT is

You provide no bulletins, updates or notices to decision makers nor assessors on aids and appliances and adaptations Activity 1 Mobilising: or other aid if such aid Activity 8 Navigation: other aid if normally used Activity 9 Absence: despite the presence of any aids or adaptations normally used

1-What ESA bulletins, updates or notices are issued for decision makers or assessors detailing changes to ESA and tribunal decisions.

**DWP Response:**

In light of the identical nature of the 2 requests made DWP has chosen to amalgamate our response to FOI 2018/01106 and FOI IR426.

In response to your request, I can confirm that the handling of your original request and response has now been appropriately reviewed and that I was unconnected with the handling of your original request.

I am satisfied that the original response was handled properly and that the outcome of your request was correct. The reasoning behind this decision is as follows:

a- DWP does not hold a list of aids and appliances relating to the ESA WCA process. This is because each individual's circumstances are different and must be considered on their own merits. Therefore I can confirm that following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information you requested is not held by this Department/Agency.

In relation to your additional question which was not part of the original Freedom of Information request:

1- I can confirm that we hold information falling within the description specified in your request. However, we estimate that the cost of complying with your request would **exceed the appropriate limit for central Government, set by regulations at £600**. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not therefore obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing it further.

Under section 16 of the Act we should help you narrow your request so that it may fall beneath the cost limit.

In this instance the time period you have chosen is too wide and you should consider a shorter time frame. Moreover the topics you ask about are very broad, you should choose a more specific subject matter.

We will consider afresh any revised request however we cannot guarantee that any revised request will fall within the cost limit.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Fol Team

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#### **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](mailto: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](http://www.ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us) or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745