

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

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

Our reference: IR2018/08071

Date: 3 December 2018

Dear Anthony Collins

Thank you for your Freedom of Information review request received on 5 November. You asked:

Please pass this on to the person who conducts Freedom of Information reviews.

Please note the Freedom of Information Act says 62. A public authority should inform the requestor of what information can be provided within the appropriate limit. This is important for two reasons because a failure to do so may result in a breach of section 16

Please can you give details of what information can be provided within the appropriate limit.

to Identify what bulletins, updates or notices to decision makers or 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

For example detailing 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.

DWP Response:

I am of a senior grade to the person who dealt with your request. I was not involved previously, and can confirm that I have carried out an internal review. I am now in a position to respond to you.

I am content that your original request was dealt with in accordance with DWP guidelines for Fol requests this is because:

In your original Freedom of information request you asked for a copy of a list detailing aids and appliances provided to Decision Makers.

Our response stated that no such list exists.

In your initial review you asked us to confirm that no such list exists, which we confirmed.

You then asked for additional information:

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

In our response we stated that due to the large volume of bulletins issued to Decision Makers and Assessors we would need you to narrow your request to allow us to provide you with information that falls within the cost limits allowed for a Freedom of Information request. At this time we provided you with options to limit the scope of your request by limiting the time frame when the bulletin was issued and/or identify a particular subject to which the bulletin relates. Under section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act this is informing you of what information would fall within the limit. Therefore we have met our obligations under the Act.

In this current review you have provided us with a further breakdown of your request and I am in a position to respond to this new information.

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information you requested is not held by this Department. DWP holds no records of any bulletins, updates or notifications relating to Aids and Appliances.

I hope this is helpful but 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 content with the outcome of this 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
ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745