

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

e-mail: freedom-of-infoxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxx.xxx.xxx.xx

Our Ref: VTR 2558

DATE: 08/09/2011

Dear Mr Taylor,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request which we received on 30 August 2011. You asked:

Under a request previously made on this website

http://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/work_boost_placements The DWP revealed (as copied below) the names of the organisations that have provided work boost placements over the past 12 months to A4e customers, from its placement department at Whittington House 764-768 Holloway Road, N19 3JQ.

The UN Global Compact's ten principles

<http://www.unglobalcompact.org/AboutTheGC/TheTenPrinciples/index.html> in the areas of human rights, labour, the environment and anti-corruption enjoy universal consensus and are derived from:

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The International Labour Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work

The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

The United Nations Convention Against Corruption

Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour States:

<http://www.unglobalcompact.org/AboutTheGC/TheTenPrinciples/Principle4.html>

What does Forced and Compulsory Labour mean?

Forced or compulsory labour is any work or service that is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty, and for which that person has not offered himself or herself voluntarily. Providing wages or other compensation to a worker does not necessarily indicate that the labour is not forced or compulsory. By right, labour should be freely given and employees should be free to leave in accordance with established rules.

The DWP force claimants to work for companies taking part in their "schemes", under threat of destitution from the penalty of withdrawing benefits

if they fail to comply,. I would like to request the DWP policy and any guidance etc which justifies encouraging the companies listed below, and all other companies which take part in the governments compulsory labour schemes, to ignore the UN Global Compact's ten principles in the areas of human rights, labour, the environment and anti-corruption.

Also would you please supply a statement of whether the DWP and the government adhere to the UN Global Compact's ten principles in the areas of human rights, labour, the environment and anti-corruption.

4 ACRES
4 ACRES LIMITED PALMERS GREEN
ABNEY PARK CEMETERY
A-CLASS FOOTBALL FOUNDATION
BARAKAH MINI MARKET
BOOKERS CASH AND CARRY
BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION (Camden)
BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION (Crickle Wood)
BTVG
CENTRE WESTMINSTER
CHARITY SHOPS IN VARIOUS LONDON PLACES
DAYLIGHT
DOREEN HAIR FASHION SALOON
ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION
FINSBURY PARK BUSINESS FORUM
FRIENDS OF THE EARTH
HANDEL HOUSE MUSEUM
HARRIOTS
HIGHGATE NEWTOWN COMM CENTER
HOME START
HOMES FOR ISLINGTON
HORNSEY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
KILTRO(UK) LTD
LINCOLN HARTFORD SOLICITORS
LIVABILITY
MARIE CURIE
NORFOLK TRUCKS
OXFAM BOOKSHOP
OXFAM BOOKSHOP HIGHGATE
P.D.S.A
P.H.A RECRUITMENT SOLUTIONS
RESTORE COMMUNITY PROJECT
SAINT MUGUS
SALIBURY MEWS HARINGES
SPRINGBOARD UK
ST. MARY PRE-SCHOOL
STRATEGIC PRO. OFFICE, ISLINGTON

STUDIO 28 LIGHT AND DESIGN
SUNNYSIDE ECOLOGY CENTER
TRADE LIMITED
WESTMINSTER VOLUNTEER CENTER
WHITTINGTON HOSPITAL
Y.M.C.A.
YMCA GOODGE ST.
YMCA KENSINGTON
1'O'CLOCK CLUB BARNBURY
ARABIC CAREER DEVELOPMENT
ASDA STARES EDMONTON GREEN
ASPIRE FOUNDATION
BARDENS CAFÉ
BBC/subell leisure centre
BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION
CAREFREE KIDS
ESSENTIAL RUBBER
FINSBURY + CLERTRNWEEL VOLUNTEERS
FINSBURY PARK BUSINESS FORUM
FINSBURY PARK BUSINESS FORUM (MARSHALLS TEAM)
GARDENING
HACKNEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
HIGH GATE NEWTOWN COMMUNITY CENTRE
HIGH GATE NEWTOWN COMMUNITY CENTRE (POOR SCHOOL)

The previous enquiry on 'work boost placements' related to the Mandatory Work Related Activity (MWRA) part of the Flexible New Deal Programme. That Programme has now ended. MWRA was intended to help people, many of whom had not worked for some time, or ever, to improve their job prospects by helping them to establish the disciplines and habits of working life, such as attending on time and regularly.

Turning to your request for DWP policies and guidance relating to UN Global Compacts ten principles, the Flexible New Deal was not a compulsory labour scheme and as such the Department does not hold information within the scope of your request.

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@dwpgsi.gov.uk or by writing to DWP, Central FoI Team, 5th Floor The Adelphi, 1-11, John Adam Street, London WC2N 6HT. 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 can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF www.ico.gov.uk