

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

e-mail: [freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)

Our Ref: FOI2019/12323

12 April 2019

Dear Jamie Evans,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 26 March. You asked:

*1Can you please confirm how many of your staff members have been taken to court for misrepresentation/Fraud? For the period starting 01/01/2014 to 01/01/2019.*

*.Please confirm how many child maintenance staff have been taken to court for discrimination from 01/01/2014 to 01/01/2019.*

*Could you also include any Child support agency staff.*

**DWP Response:**

The Government Internal Audit Agency's (GIAA) provides counter-fraud services to DWP, including to Child Maintenance Group. The team's remit includes the investigation of alleged serious fraud and wrongdoing by CMG staff. Where an investigation indicates a potential criminal offence, the matter is referred to the relevant prosecuting authority for consideration of further action.

They confirmed they had taken members of staff to court for fraud related offences. However in keeping with statistical reporting, would not report a number below 5. This also meets our legal obligation, regarding disclosing information enabling identification of individuals, under Data Protection.

Discrimination falls outside of their remit of Government Internal Audit Agency's (GIAA) and no information relating to this issue is available.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact us 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 FoI 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  
[https://ico.org.uk/Global/contact\\_us](https://ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us) or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745