



Department
for Work &
Pensions

DWP Central Freedom of
Information Team
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Adis Sehic
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[DWP Website](https://www.dwp.gov.uk)

Our Ref: FOI2023/14577

8 March 2023

Dear Adis Sehic,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FoI) request received on 22 February. You wrote:

“The House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts report, ‘The Department for Work and Pensions’ Accounts 2021–22 - Fraud and error in the benefits system’, published 9 November 2022 (available here: <https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/31513/documents/176815/default/>) refers at page 11 to “savings generated by its £613 million investment in counter-fraud measures” which “would provide a framework against which its future fraud and error performance can be judged”.

Additionally, reference is made at page 11 to the development of a “reporting mechanism to demonstrate the effectiveness of its counter-fraud activities based on expected saving”.

Please provide a copy of the framework used to report how much money has been lost or saved for the taxpayer as a result of action taken to prevent error or fraud within benefits claims.

In the event that you determine some of the information I have requested to be exempt from disclosure, please redact exempt information with black boxes, instead of snipping or excerpting, and please state which category of exemption you believe applies to the information.”

DWP Response

We do not hold the information requested.

This is because the ‘framework’ to which you refer is currently being developed. However, we intend to report progress and our fraud and error savings via the Department’s Annual Report and Accounts 2023, which we hope to publish in early July 2023.

To be helpful, you can find the information for the 2021-2022 accounting year at [DWP annual report and accounts 2021 to 2022 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dwp-annual-report-and-accounts-2021-to-2022), where we estimated that savings made from the correction and prevention of fraud and error were around £2billion in the 2021/22 financial year (rounded to nearest billion).

These accounts also give further details of fraud and error investment and spending for the financial year ended 31 March 2022.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team
Department for Work and Pensions

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@dw.gov.uk or by writing to: DWP Central Fol Team, Caxton House, 6-12 Tothill Street, London, 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.

Website: [ICO FOI and EIR complaints](#) or telephone 0303 123 1113.