

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

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

**Our reference:** IR2019/31942

**Date:** 11 September 2019

Dear Ellen Davies

Thank you for your Freedom of Information review request received on 29 August. You asked:

Hi, this isn't really the information I was asking for.  
I am wondering, when evidence has been received, how is it calculated against child maintenance costs.

**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 correctly.

It may be helpful if I start by clarifying the remit of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The FOIA gives any person legal right of access to any and all recorded information which is held by a public authority. The FOIA does not oblige a public authority to create new information to answer questions; nor does it require a public authority to give advice, opinion or explanation in relation to issues/policies under question.

We do not hold any recorded information on the calculation. However, I can provide some information on variations which may assist you. Please see Annex variations (attached)

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

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**Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act**

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  
Web: [ico.org.uk/global/contact-us](https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us) or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745