

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

e-mail: freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Our Ref: VTR IR 370

DATE: 08 August 2014

Dear James Wildman,

I am writing in response to your review request received on 30 July. An internal review has been carried out by someone of a senior grade to the person who dealt with your original request. I am now in a position to respond to you. In your review request you said:

I am writing to request an internal review of Department for Work and Pensions's handling of my FOI request 'Habitual Residence Test and Holiday Representatives'.

The reply I received did not answer most of the points on which I requested information. I will accept that the statistics I requested are not economically accessible, However, I must ask you again to confirm whether or not you had consultations with employers in the Travel Industry about the impacts of the new measures on their staff.

I expect this information is readily available.

DWP has not held discussions with employers in the holiday sector about the Habitual Residence Test.

At their [meeting on 30 January 2014](#) (link can be found below), *the (independent) Social Security Advisory Committee considered the Jobseeker's Allowance (Habitual Residence) Amendment Regulations 2013, which introduced the three month residence requirement. The Committee decided that a formal consultation on the Regulations would not be necessary.

*The Social Security Advisory Committee is an independent statutory body that provides impartial advice on social security and scrutinises most of the complex secondary legislation that underpins the social security system.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/325368/ssac-minutes-300114.pdf

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Strategy Fol Team

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 www.ico.gov.uk