

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: VTR 2906

DATE 05 July 2013

Dear P Maddison,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received 25 June. You asked;

*I would like to know exactly how the amounts for benefits are worked out, I ask because if this sentence; "This is what the LAW says what you need to live on"*

- 1. The amounts for each benefit.*
- 2. How the amounts are calculated.*
- 3. How much it is that the amount actually is and why.*
- 4. Who decides these amounts.*
- 5. What the money is expected to be used for to justify "This is what the LAW says what you need to live on"*

Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act allows us to direct you to information which is already reasonably accessible to you. The information you requested is available on the gov.uk website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/social-security-benefits-rates-and-how-they-are-set>

If you do not have access to the Internet at home, you may be able to use facilities at your local public library.

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 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 [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)