

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: Fol 213

Date: 29 January 2018

Dear Mr Williams,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request of 16 January 2018. You asked:

*Please provide details of how many letters before action under the pre action protocol for judicial review relating to issues about the administration, payment or entitlement to benefits were received by DWP solicitors for each of the years from 2010 onwards (tax years or calendar years - whichever is easier*

### **DWP Response**

The information you have requested is exempt under section 32 of the FOI act, which states that:

“Information held by a public authority is exempt information if it is held only by virtue of being contained in—

- (a) any document filed with, or otherwise placed in the custody of, a court for the purposes of proceedings in a particular cause or matter,
- (b) any document served upon, or by, a public authority for the purposes of proceedings in a particular cause or matter”.

The duty to confirm or deny that the information exists does not arise in relation to information which is exempt information by virtue of this section

This is an absolute exemption, so DWP is not required to carry out the Public Interest Test.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Operations 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@dpw.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dpw.gsi.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)