

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team
e-mail: freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov

Our Ref: Fol 4762

Date: 6th December 2017

Dear Mark Smith,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 8th November 2017. You asked:

I writing to request information on whether Job seekers Allowance claimants will be forced to switch to Universal Credit during the roll out of Universal credit in their particular area.

And if possible whether there will be a particular time-frame in which Job Seekers Allowance claimants will be required to be on Universal Credit by.

Finally I would like to know if there is a process by which a claimant can refuse Universal Credit and continue to claim Job seekers Allowance or Claim Job seekers allowance in an area where universal credit has been rolled out until it is completely phased out.

DWP Response

When Universal Credit Full Service is rolled out to a Jobcentre Plus, all new claims to legacy benefits will stop. Therefore no new claims to Jobseeker's Allowance will be allowed. All new claims will be made to Universal Credit. We will start the managed move of existing benefit claims in July 2019 and complete in March 2022.

The Universal Credit Full Service Rollout Schedule is available on the Department's website at
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/652180/universal-credit-transition-rollout-schedule.pdf.

We do not currently hold information on arrangements for migration of legacy benefits on to Universal Credit.

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 happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk or by writing to DWP, Central Fol 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