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Date

19 December 2014

Mr Harris

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX@XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.XXX

(sent by email)

Ref: IR 534

Dear Mr Harris,

Thank you for your e-mail of 23 October 14 asking for a review of the Department's Freedom of Information response of FOI 4110 in which you now ask:

I am writing to request an internal review of Department for Work and Pensions's handling of my FOI request 'Method used to identify claimants as "unwilling to work"'.

I thank you for having provided a very small part of the information I requested. However, you have not provided information for the main part of my request, ``In particular, please provide:

- *The numbers in the out-of-work group who are in housing estates and unwilling to work during 2010 and for all subsequent years for which statistics are available*
- *The method used to identify claimants as "unwilling to work" "*

I am of a senior grade to the person who dealt with your request previously, and can confirm that I have carried out an internal review. I confirm that I have considered your request afresh. In conducting my review, I have discussed the original reply, the handling and the decisions on what can be provided with the officer who drafted it.

Firstly, I must apologise for the length of time that has taken for a response and not keeping you updated of the progress of your review.

I have now concluded my review and apologise for not covering that part in the original response.

The Department does not define "unwilling to work" therefore data is not held on this topic.

You may however be interested to know that the figures referenced in the article are from statistics produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on working or workless households, derived from the Labour Force Survey (LFS). The definition of a workless household is based on the household including at least one person aged 16 to 64 where no-one aged 16 or over is in employment, so isn't linked to receipt of out-of-work benefits.

All statistics within this release can be found here:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lmac/working-and-workless-households/index.html>

The responsibility for these statistics lies with the ONS therefore if you have any further questions, information on how to contact them can be found here:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/site-information/information/contact-us/index.html>

You could also carry out a similar analysis - including the benefit breakdown - using the end-user-license version of the Departments Family Resources Survey (FRS) which you can download from the UK data service:

<http://discover.ukdataservice.ac.uk/series/?sn=200017>

Further information on the FRS can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/family-resources-survey--2>

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

Yours sincerely

DWP Private Office

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