

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: IR 139

DATE: 13 April 2017

Dear Mr Slater,

Thank you for your Internal Review request received on 23 March 2017. In your request you said:

I am writing to request an internal review of Department for Work and Pensions's handling of my FOI request 'Milestone Schedule for Universal Credit Programme Showing 2021 completion'.

The Information Commissioner has issued her Decision Notice FS50637830. She has decided that the DWP has breached section 10 of the FOIA. The Commissioner requires the public authority to take the following steps to ensure compliance with the legislation:

- Issue a substantive response to the complainant under the FOIA by either complying with section 1(1) or issuing a valid refusal notice.

The DWP must take these steps within 35 calendar days of the date of this decision notice. Failure to comply may result in the Commissioner making written certification of this fact to the High Court pursuant to section 54 of the Act and may be dealt with as a contempt of court.

In light of the Commissioner's decision and the Department's prior agreement on the revised scope of the RFI I felt it appropriate to submit this IRR to the DWP to ask that it comply sooner rather than later.

I can advise that your request for review is denied. No internal review can be carried out in relation to a Freedom of Information request that is already the subject of an Information Commissioner's Office complaint and decision notice. As such, answering this response would be excessive and an inappropriate use of finite departmental resource.

We will therefore take no further action.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Strategy FoI 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