



Department  
for Work &  
Pensions

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[DWP Website](#)

Our Ref: FOI2021/26693  
FOI2021/27349  
FOI2021/27355

23 April 2021

Dear David James,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FoI) requests received on 31 March 6 April.

You wrote:

### **31 March**

Old-Style Legacy Jobseeker's 1ST APRIL 2021

As of today, jobcentre staff are calling people up harassing them about there benefit one of the benefits is Old-Style Legacy Jobseeker's.

As I know the law has not changed on Old-Style Legacy Jobseeker's. (Welfare Reform Act 2012)

Question:

- 1.)Is there a legal requirement for me or anyone to be forced over to UC if I have not made a new claim and still on Old-Style Legacy Jobseeker's? . if so? What law permits this?
- 2.)Is it legal that the jobcentre staff threatens you with sanctions if you don't move over to UC . if so? What law permits this?
- 3.)Is it legal for JSA DWP staff members to change your claimant commitment or your JSA agreement by force I.E threat of a sanctions when you are already doing all you can do to get a job? As stated in the Welfare Reform Act 2012, which has not been changed. . if so? What law permits this?
- 4.)Is there a legal requirement for me or anyone else to give out my private number or email to the DWP jobcentre plus? By force. I.E sanctions. if so? What law permits this?

DWP JOBCENTRE PLUS STAFF are stating you can be sanctioned if I don't give out my private data to them like my number or my email if I have one? Or pick up the phone to them when they call. What law permits them to sanction you if you don't pick up the phone to them?

GDPR gives you the right in certain circumstances not to be subject to FORCED to give private data by force, . if so? What law permits this?

## **6 April**

“As I know the law has not changed on Old-Style Legacy Jobseeker's. (Welfare Reform Act 2012)

1.) IF YOU ARE ON OLD JSA Old-Style Legacy Jobseeker, DO YOU HAVE TO NOW CHANGE TO claimant commitment.?

YES OR A NO WILL DO?

The JSA Claimant Commitment does not require anything of the claimant over and above that

of the existing Jobseeker's Allowance regulations.”

## **6 April**

1) do you have to accept a JSA Claimant Commitment, over a Jobseeker's Agreement which is already in place and not a new claim. to continue receive an award of JSA.

on checking the law or regulation has not changed. Welfare Reform Act 2012, job seeker allowance.

I Cannot find anything that mandates a JSA claimant who has a Jobseeker's Agreement (JSAg) in force and not a new claim. to mandatorily accept a JSA CC as a condition of continuing to receive an award of JSA.

The amendment to the Jobseeker's Act 1995 that you quote in your reply is made by the Welfare Reform Act 2012 [Para. 44(2)] which as I understand it applies only to new-style contribution-based jobseeker's allowance claimants under Universal Credit (UC) and is therefore not relevant in answer to my question which relates to non-UC areas (the vast majority) where people are still on JSAg awards.

would be grateful if you could clarify your response by stating specifically the sections of the legislation which mandate a new claimant, or a JSA claimant who has a JSAg in force, and who are not in a UC area and have no contribution-based allowance in their JSA entitlement to accept a JSA CC as a condition of receiving or continuing to receive a JSA award under a threat of sanction or to stop their entitlement to benefit

yes or no will do.

## **DWP Response**

Under Section 14(2) of the FoI Act, public authorities are not obliged to comply with a repeat request.

Where a public authority (in this case the DWP) has previously responded to a request for information which was made by any person, it is not obliged to comply with a subsequent identical or substantially similar request from that person unless a reasonable interval has elapsed between compliance with the previous request and the making of the current request.

In this case, the Department has already responded to a similar request from you, FOI2021/25629 on 6 April 2021 and so, under section 14(2) of the FoI Act, will not be responding further.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team  
Department for Work and Pensions

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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@dwpgov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dwpgov.uk) or by writing to: DWP Central FoI Team, Caxton House, 6-12 Tothill Street, London, 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.

Website: [ICO Contact Information](#) or telephone 0303 123 1113.