DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

e-mail: <u>freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gov.uk</u>

Our Ref: FOI2020/14259

6 April 2020

Dear Ellie Colvin,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FoI) request received on 23 March. You asked:

Please confirm if your organisation has achieved the following targets over the past 24 months:

Headcount reductions
Productivity improvements
Budget savings

Please also provide commentary on why each of these have been achieved / not achieved.

DWP Response:

I can confirm that the Department holds this information. However, some of the information is exempt under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act because the information is reasonably accessible to you, as it is already in the public domain.

However, to be helpful you can find the information you seek at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/812722/dwp-annual-report-and-accounts-2018-2019.pdf

Additionally, the information relating to 2019-2020 is exempt under Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act. This is because the information is intended for publication at a future date.

This exemption requires the public interest for and against disclosure to be weighed in the balance. There is a public interest in information being released as soon as possible. However, I am satisfied that there is a strong public interest in permitting public authorities to publish information in a manner and form and at a time of their own choosing. It is a part of the effective conduct of public affairs that the general publication of information is a conveniently planned and managed activity within the reasonable control of public authorities I am satisfied that in the instance the Department has a reasonable entitlement to make its own arrangements to do so.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central 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.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 Web: ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745