

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: FOI2020/30348

17 July 2020

Dear Dorota Peszkowska,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 18 June. You asked:

1) How many applications for the Universal Credit resulted in refusal despite the applicant being a holder of the pre-settled status?

And, if possible, (if not, answer to (1) will suffice):

2) How many applications for the Universal Credit resulted in refusal despite the applicant being a holder of the pre-settled status specifically due to failing the Habitual Residency Test?

DWP Response:

I can confirm that we do not hold information falling within the description specified in your request. We have estimated that the cost of meeting your request would exceed the cost limit of £600 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days (equivalent to 24 staff-hours) in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

Whilst we are able to provide the total number of HRTs and HRT passes/fails by EEA nationals, we do not record on the UC system how many EEA claimants to UC had pre-settled status.

Under section 16 of the Act we should help you narrow your requests so that they may fall beneath the cost limit. Limiting the scope and number of your requests may help to bring them within the appropriate cost limit. For example, limiting the scope of your original request to those in line with the paragraph above.

We will consider afresh any revised request however we cannot guarantee that any revised request will fall within the cost limit.

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@dw.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