

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: FOI2020/35216

30 July 2020

Dear J Roberts,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 08 July 2020. You asked:

Dear Department for Work and Pensions,

The recently published 'Plan for Jobs' document includes this:

'2.6 The Plan for Jobs provides new funding to ensure more people will get tailored support to help them to find work. People in the Intensive Work Search group on Universal Credit will benefit from a significant expansion of support offered through the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Jobcentres, including doubling the number of work coaches and additional intensive support to those who have been unemployed for at least three months. Alongside this, the government will utilise private sector capacity to deliver a new online, one-to-one job finding support service. Additional funding will also mean that over a quarter of a million more people will receive individualised advice on training and careers through the National Careers Service.'

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/898422/A_Plan_for_Jobs_Print_.pdf

- 1. Please provide all information held concerning how claimants who have do not have computer skills or access to a computer will benefit from the one-to-one job finding support service.*
- 2. Please provide all information held on the 'additional intensive support' for those who have been unemployed for at least three months.*
- 3. Please provide details of the statutory provisions that allow the details of claimants to be passed to the private sector and information on the role of private sector in any sanctioning regime related to the new service.*

Yours faithfully,

J Roberts

DWP Response:

Regarding question 1 and 2 of your Freedom of Information request, I can confirm that the Department holds the information you are seeking. However, Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act exempts this information from disclosure. 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.

Regarding question 3 of your Freedom of Information request, I can confirm that the legislation covering the administration of sanctions is already in the public domain and can be found on www.legislation.gov.uk:

The Welfare Reform Act 2012

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/5/section/26/enacted>

Universal Credit Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/376)

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/376/contents/made>

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