

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

e-mail: [freedom-of-information-rexxxxx@xxx.xxx.xxx.xx](mailto:freedom-of-information-rexxxxx@xxx.xxx.xxx.xx)

Our Ref: FOI 3379

21 September 2012

Dear Paul Gelderd,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 31<sup>st</sup> August 2012.

You requested the following information:

*I would like to know if it is mandatory and a requirement of receiving JSA or other similar benefits that I provide the name and address of my last employer. Equally is it mandatory that I provide this information when ending a claim? Is the failure to provide this information subject to any sanction i.e. the removal or suspension of benefits?*

*If this information is required, why is it required and how will it be used?*

Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act allows us to direct you to information which is already reasonably accessible to you. The Jobseekers Act 1995 is available online at the following internet address: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1995/18/contents> and the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996 are available at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1996/207/contents/made>

Section 19 of the Act states that Jobseeker's Allowance shall not be payable to a claimant where they lost their employment through misconduct or left voluntarily without good cause.

Regulation 24 requires a claimant to provide such information about his circumstances as may be required to determine entitlement to Jobseeker's Allowance. This would include details of their last employer to confirm that Section 19 did not apply. If a claimant refused to provide this information then Jobseeker's Allowance could not be awarded as DWP would be unable to confirm that Jobseeker's Allowance is payable to the claimant.

There is no requirement to provide information about your employment when ending your claim.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Fol Team

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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@dwpgsi.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dwpgsi.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 [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)