

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: IR494 (VTR2134)

2 July 2013

Dear Mr. Reynolds,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) review request, which we received on 4 June 2013.

I am of a senior grade to the person who dealt with your request previously, and can confirm that I have carried out an internal review. I am now in a position to respond to you.

You have asked us:

Numbers 1,2,3,5,6,7,8,11,12 WERE NOT ANSWERED.

EMPHASIS MUST BE ON NUMBER ONE, "Why did the test pilot go ahead in Essex, despite not being given permission to do so?
... and number two, Who gave the go ahead?

The Freedom of Information Act provides the requestor with an access right to recorded information. It does not extend to requests for views, comments or questions about a particular matter. Your request can be in the form of a question, but the public authority does not have to answer if this would mean creating new information or giving an opinion or judgement that is not already recorded.

In relation to all questions, with the exception of question 2, I am content that DWP has supplied that information which is necessary to answer the points raised.

With regard to question 2 I can now provide additional information and apologise that this was not included originally: the approval for the pilots was given by the DWP Work Services Director (National) and the Work Services Director for London.

I hope this is helpful. 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 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