

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: VTR 750 and 753

DATE: 18 October 2013

Dear BritCits,

I am writing in response to your review requests received on 25 September (IR 753) and 27 September (IR 750). An internal review has been carried out and I am now in a position to respond to you. In your review requests you said:

IR 753

BritCits is the official name of a national group, and widely known as such, evidenced by a basic google search. This is sufficient for the processing of an FOI request as per the information here: <<http://www.ico.org.uk/>

for_organisations/guidance_index/~/_media/documents/library/

Freedom_of_Informat>

You are therefore obliged according to law to have responded within 20 working days of my request, dated 28th August 2013.

And also:

IR 750

I am writing to request an internal review of Department for Work and Pensions's handling of my FOI request 'Public information campaigns on EU Directive 2004/18/EC'.

From both the time perspective and the excuse made to avoid providing the information.

Thank you very much for your reviews and your further review sent separately which provided your name and therefore your association with this group.

The Department recognises that an organisation is a 'person' under the FoI Act and is therefore able to make a request for information, and we do accept requests from organisations and answer accordingly. However with no information provided to link a What Do

They Know account, to a valid organisation classed as a person under the Interpretation Act, and the request not coming from any identifiable member of the organisation nor address we could associate with that group, I find nothing wrong with the refusal provided.

Now you have provided us with the information needed to link this WDTK account to your group however, I can inform you that DWP provides information on benefits that people may be able to get while abroad and how to claim them on <https://www.gov.uk/benefits-if-you-are-abroad>

We also have information about claiming benefits if customers live, move or travel abroad <https://www.gov.uk/claiming-benefits-move-travel-abroad>

DWP also raises awareness of the Right of Freedom of Movement within the European Union by providing information on the services available through EURES (www.eures.europa.eu), a network of the Public Employment Services in Europe. Each year DWP advisers give guidance on mobility in Europe to more than 20,000 people attending Job Fairs, Careers Fairs, and seminars on living and working in Europe.

Every month DWP staff in Great Britain are contacted by 2,000 people about living and working elsewhere in Europe and there are over 200,000 searches on Universal Jobmatch (www.gov.uk) for jobs in another EU country. In Northern Ireland, the Department for Employment & Learning held a Work Abroad Job fair in Belfast in November 2012 attended by 1350 people. The EURES team in Belfast promotes the right to free movement by distributing leaflets to jobseekers and raising awareness with staff in their local offices.

In addition DWP provides information leaflets for each benefit to explain the rules for people coming from abroad, and also for people moving abroad but within the European Union. These leaflets are available online and in Jobcentre Plus offices.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central FoI 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