

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: IR2020/37366

4 Aug 2020

Dear Colin Dunn,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) internal review request received on 6 July.
You asked:

I think I am deliberately being misunderstood so info can be delayed.

I am writing to request an internal review of Department for Work and Pensions's handling of my FOI request 'Qualifications of medical and decision Dwp have inho been unnecessarily obstructive in complying with my request.which I reviewed and asked for less information to help in cutting time and cosr

A full history of my FOI request and all correspondence is available on the Internet at this address: https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/qualifications_of_medical_and_de

DWP Response:

In response to your request, I can confirm that the handling of your original request and response has now been appropriately reviewed by someone unconnected with the handling of your original request.

As a result of this review I am satisfied that the original response to FOI2020/33549, which was sent to you on 28 July 2020, was handled properly and that the outcome of your request was correct.

In reply to FOI2020/26154 on 1 July, you were advised that your question exceeded cost limits, and that under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, the department is not therefore obliged to comply with your request and would not be processing it further.

You were also provided with guidance to help you narrow your request so that it may fall beneath the cost limit, as required under section 16 of the Act, and that we would consider afresh any revised request as per the suggested advice, however, we could not guarantee that any revised request would fall within the cost limit.

Your response remained the same, except to limit the time to the current financial year '*or the minimum period to show meaningful information, that an average person would be able to evaluation.*'

Unfortunately, this did not affect the cost limit associated with your question.

The costs of determining the number of decision makers removed from post will remain above costs for the reasons given, specifically, 'Because of the data structure in the Department for Work and Pensions' (DWP's) Human Resource computer systems, it is not possible to identify the number of people who have been dismissed by job role. To do so in a manner that would produce meaningful information that can be evaluated would require a search of our paper files for all dismissal cases and would therefore exceed the cost threshold as specified.'

Also, as your response did not refine the specific training materials required, this also remained above 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 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