

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: IR481

Date: 6 October 2014

J Roberts

request-228400-9d977cf4@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear J Roberts

I am writing in response to your review request received on 23 September 2014. An internal review has been carried out by someone of a senior grade to the person who dealt with your original request. I am now in a position to respond to you. In your review request you said:

I am very disappointed that part 1 of my request has been refused under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act:

'For each of the past three financial years please provide details of:

- i. the total amount paid to ICE staff in bonuses;*
- ii. the total number of staff who received bonuses; and,*
- iii. the 5 highest bonuses paid and the positions/grades of those who received them.*

You wrote:

'Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act DWP is not obliged to comply with your request as detailed under point 1 and we will not be processing this request further.'

According to the ICO,

'Where a public authority claims that section 12 is engaged, it should, where reasonable, provide advice and assistance to help the requestor to refine the request so that it can be dealt with under the appropriate limit.'

Please provide me with appropriate advice and assistance or explain why it is not reasonable to do so.

As a result of this review I am satisfied that the original response was handled properly and that the outcome of your request was correct. As detailed in our previous response because of the turnover in staff within the Independent Case Examiner's office all of the information you requested covering the past three financial years is not readily available and to answer your questions in full would incur a cost exceeding the appropriate limit of £600.00 as defined under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

In our previous response we gave you details of the non-consolidated pay bonuses for the three years you requested. We are able to answer part iii of your original request in relation to the five highest bonuses paid and the grade of staff they were awarded to as follows:

2012 - £1,235.00 was paid to four HEO's and £1,025.00 was paid to one EO;

2013 - £1,330.00 was paid to a Grade 7, £935.00 to an SEO and £760.00 to three HEOs; and

2014 - £1,350.00 was paid to a Grade 7, £950.00 to an SEO and £800.00 to three HEOs.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Strategy 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