

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: VTR1250

DATE: 3 April 2013

Dear Paul Woods,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 14 March 2013, you asked:

When you send letters to those on benefits, you state, " This is the amount the law says you need to live on".

What law are you referring to?

There are several different pieces of primary legislation, under which regulations are made, which cover entitlement to, and other aspects of, income-related benefit payments. The main acts are the Jobseekers Act 1995 which governs Jobseeker's Allowance; the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 which governs Income Support; the Welfare Reform Act 2007 which governs Employment and Support Allowance; and the State Pension Credit Act 2002 which governs State Pension Credit.

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 happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk or by writing to DWP, Central FoI 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