

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

e-mail: [freedom-of-information-request@dwpgsi.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dwpgsi.gov.uk)

Our Ref: VTR 4202

DATE: 03 September 2013

Dear Sarah Conner,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 01 September. You asked for:-

*In years gone by the phrase, the law says you need this amount to live on, was put on benefits letters when sent to a claimant telling them how much benefit they would receive, this phrase does not appear on the letters now.*

- 1. Is this phrase still in use*
- 2. Does the phrase only apply to certain benefits and if so which benefits.*
- 3. If still in use why was it removed from the benefits letters*
- 4. an explanation to how it can it be lawful to impose a sanction if a person is only receiving the bare minimum in benefits that the phrase applies to.*

You can expect a reply by 27 September unless I need to come back to you to clarify your request or the balance of the public interest test needs to be considered.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central FoI Team

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**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@dwpgsi.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dwpgsi.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](http://www.ico.gov.uk)