

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: VTR 5785

DATE: 18 December 2013

Dear Charles Bell,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received 11/12/2013. You asked;

In relation to certain State Benefits the right to payment or the proportion thereof is determined according to the savings or investments held by a claimant.

Do you treat the following as savings or investments for the purpose of the calculation and, if so, how do you value them?

1st World War Medals; in use antique furniture; gold coins such as kruggerands, Canadian Maples; tokens for laundrettes, car ;parks etc; bitcoin; gold coins of numanistic value minted by countries within the European Union but before the creation of the Euro; English gold sovereigns.

By 'capital' we mean savings and capital assets, for example money held in a bank or building society account, stocks and shares and property rather than personal possessions which cannot be readily valued. As items such as medals and furniture are personal possessions they are not treated as capital and are disregarded when calculating benefit entitlement.

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