



Department  
for Work &  
Pensions

DWP Central Freedom of  
Information Team  
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Amanda Hart  
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[DWP Website](#)

Our Ref: FOI2020/43370

12 August 2020

Dear Amanda Hart,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FoI) request received on 06 August 2020. You wrote:

“Request one of two: Please kindly provide sections of your staff contracts which warn them not to release information to the public or press which could as a result put the department in a negative light.

Parameters for request one: ONLY staff whose job includes handling Freedom of Information requests.

Date for request one: Active now

Request two of two: Please kindly provide relevant sections of your staff contracts which effectively amends the conditions as stated in request one allowing staff to fully perform their Freedom of Information duties in accordance with the FoIA.

Parameters for request two: ONLY staff whose job includes handling Freedom of Information requests.

Elaboration for request two: Obviously we can't have your staff on FoI duty preventing release of information requested under the FoIA merely because it could show the department in a negative light. Such duties must adhere to the FoIA. We'd like to see copies of their staff contract amended to allow for this.

Date for request two: Active now”

## **DWP Response**

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, we have established that for both parts of your request the information you requested is not held by this Department.

The Department fully complies with its obligations under the FoI Act.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team  
Department for Work and Pensions

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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@dw.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dw.gov.uk) or by writing to: DWP Central Fol Team, Caxton House, 6-12 Tothill Street, London, 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.

Website: [ICO Contact Information](#) or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745