

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: FOI2019/40895

29 November 2019

Dear Dominika Klukowska,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FoI) request received on 7 November. You asked:

Please provide numbers of refused Universal Credit claims based on failed habitual residency for EEU citizens since the day Universal Credit was introduced. Please provide details how this assessment is carried on and what documents are requested to carry on such assessments.

Please provide this within legitimate timescale.

*Yours faithfully,
Dominika Klukowska*

DWP Response:

In regards to your first query, to provide numbers of refused Universal Credit claims based on failed habitual residence tests, I can confirm that we hold information falling within the description specified in your request. However, we estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit for central Government, set by regulations at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not therefore obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing it further.

Under section 16 of the Act we should help you narrow your request so that it may fall beneath the cost limit.

You can narrow your request by:

- Requesting data that we hold from July 2018 to date, selecting a period between these dates.
- Requesting your second query regarding the habitual residency test assessment.

We will consider afresh any revised request however we cannot guarantee that any revised request will fall within the cost limit.

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@dwf.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
Web: ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745