

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: Fol 2815

DATE: 26 July 2017

Dear M Boyce,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 2 July 2017. You asked:

I recently chose to migrate from JSA/tax credits to Universal Credit (natural migration as opposed to managed migration). That was a big mistake. I did so because I believed that I would have a better chance of finding work and staying in work, particularly temporary work and not having to keep signing on and off. What I didn't realise was that I would be £50.00 a week worse off - loss of tax credits and no transitional protection, because I foolishly chose to make it easier for myself to find work. The Conservative Government have always claimed that no one would be worse off on Universal Credit than on the legacy benefits. That is not true, as I have found out.

Please provide all documents/legislation/links relating to Universal Credit transitional protection that have been published by the Government in the last five years.

DWP Response

I can confirm that the Department holds this information. However, the information is exempt under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act because the information is reasonably accessible to you, as it is already in the public domain. However, to be helpful you can find the information you seek at:

"Claimants who come onto Universal Credit as a result of a change of circumstance meaning they need to apply to Universal Credit instead will not be entitled to Transitional Protection."

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/transitional-protection-universal-credit-policy-briefing-note>

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Strategy 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