

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: FOI2019/23860

24 July 2019

Dear Nick Phillips,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 26 June. You asked:

*For the years ending 31.12.17 and 31.12.18, or for the two most recent years for which a full data set is available, please provide the following information:*

*The total number of Work Capability Assessments conducted at the centres listed below, and the percentage of assessments that produced an award of 0 points to claimants undergoing a WCA review for each centre listed.*

- Irene House, 218 Balham High Road, Balham, London, SW12 9BX
- Tresco House, 65 Lisson Grove, Marylebone, London, NW1 6UH
- Five Ways House, Islington Row Middleway, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 1SL
- Park Tower, Stockton Street, Hartlepool, TS24 7PT
- 1 Atlantic Quay, Broomielaw, Glasgow G2 8JB, UK

*N.B. Would you ensure the two years' sets of data are submitted to us separately rather than as an aggregate so as to enable comparisons between outcomes?*

## **DWP Response:**

The Fol Act gives you a legal right of access to any recorded information held by a public authority. We are not required to provide advice, generate answers to specific questions, or create information we do not hold.

I can confirm that we hold some of the information falling within the description specified in your request. However, we estimate that the cost of complying with your full 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 for Work and Pensions (DWP) holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it. Regulation 4(4) sets out that staff time must be calculated at a flat rate of £25 per hour. Under section 12 of the Fol Act, DWP 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. I can confirm that we will consider your revised request if you resubmit a new

FOI restricting your query to just the first part of your original question which asks for the total number of Work Capability Assessments conducted at the listed centres.

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@dwp.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gov.uk) or by writing to DWP, Central FoI Team, Caxton House, 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  
Web: [ico.org.uk/Global/contact\\_us](http://ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us) or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745