

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

e-mail: freedom-of-information-rexxxxx@xxx.xxx.xxx.xx

Our Ref: VTRIR118

26 March 2012

Dear Paula Tuitt,

Thank you for your review request received 29 February 2012 in which you asked:

I am writing to request an internal review of Department for Work and Pensions's handling of my FOI request "'Work Experience" scheme for youth age 24 and under'.

You have not specified exactly which exemption you are claiming needs more time for a Public Interest test. You have already published similar information in the past according to media reports, therefore the balance of available past and current factors shows the information must be disclosed, as currently there is significant interest in the Public for the information being request as it was when requested on 31 January 2012.

DWP reveals that A4e sent the unemployed to work in at least two of its own offices in an apparent conflict of interest In response to a freedom of information request about the company last year, the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) revealed that A4e sent jobseekers it was meant to be helping into employment to work in at least two of its own offices in an apparent conflict of interest.

<http://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/77563/response/196264/attach/html/2/1743%20Reply.pdf.html>

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2012/feb/22/a4e-compelled-jobseekers-unpaid-offices>

I have conducted a review of your case and found that we did omit to advise you which exemption was being considered when we extended the deadline for responding.

Please accept my sincere apologies for this. I understand you have now received a reply to your original request, reference 422, explaining that the information you requested is being withheld under both section 12 – disproportionate costs, and 43 – commercial interests.

If you are not happy with that response you may request an internal review by e-mailing xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxx.xxx.gov.uk or by writing to DWP, Central FoI Team, 5th Floor The Adelphi, 1-11, John Adam Street, London WC2N 6HT. Any review request should be submitted within two months of the date the reply was issued – 15 March 2012.

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 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