

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: VTR 5635

3 December 2013

Dear Glenys Harriman,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 29 November 2013. You asked:-

If a claimant is on UC he/she could be subject to full work related requirements (and face sanctions for failure to keep to them) if they are earning less than their individual "threshold" normally 35 hrs pw @ minimum wage.

What happens if someone is on a zero hours contract and doesn't know from day to day how many hours they will work? Will the DWP make an assumption that during that week there will be no work (and therefore a requirement to look for work for 35 hrs during that week) until such point as work arises? Or is there some other method of deciding?

You can expect a reply by 31 December 2013 unless I need to come back to you to clarify your request or the balance of the public interest test needs to be considered.

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@dwp.gsi.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