

## **Consultation Principles**

This consultation is being conducted in line with the new Cabinet Office Consultation Principles (<u>http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/resource-library/consultation-principles-guidance</u>). The key principles are:

- departments will follow a range of timescales rather than defaulting to a 12-week period, particularly where extensive engagement has occurred before;
- departments will need to give more thought to how they engage with and consult with those who are affected;
- consultation should be 'digital by default', but other forms should be used where these are needed to reach the groups affected by a policy; and
- the principles of the Compact between government and the voluntary and community sector will continue to be respected.

## Freedom of information

The information you send us may need to be passed to colleagues within the Department for Work and Pensions, published in a summary of responses received and referred to in the published response document.

All information contained in your response, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure if requested under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. By providing personal information for the purpose of the public consultation exercise, it is understood that you consent to its disclosure and publication. If this is not the case, you should limit any personal information which is provided, or remove it completely. If you want the information in your response to the consultation to be kept confidential, you should explain why as part of your response, although we cannot guarantee to do this. We cannot guarantee confidentiality of electronic responses even if your IT system claims it automatically.

If you want to find out more about the general principles of Freedom of Information and how it is applied within DWP, please contact:

Department for Work & Pensions

Central Freedom of Information Team Department for Work and Pensions, 4th Floor, Caxton House, Tothill Street, London, SW1H 9NA Email: <u>freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk</u>

More information about the Freedom of Information Act can be found on the website of the Ministry of Justice, Freedom of Information pages.

## Feedback on this consultation

We value your feedback on how well we consult or seek evidence. If you have any comments on the process of this consultation (as opposed to the issues raised) please contact our Consultation Coordinator:

Elias Koufou Department for Work and Pensions' Consultation Coordinator: 2nd Floor, Caxton House, Tothill Street, London, SW1H 9NA Phone: 020 7449 7439 Fax: 020 7449 5089 Email: <u>caxtonhouse.legislation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk</u>

Please also make any suggestions as to how the process could be improved further. If you have any requirements that we need to meet to enable you to comment or to provide evidence, please let us know.

The responses to the consultation will be published in a report on the GOV.UK website that will summarise the information received and any action that we propose to take as a result.