Freedom of Information request 2013-895

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Information request

Is it possible to extract for the City Region Councils (Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens, Wirral) the number of sanctions applied by length of time that an individual has been on JSA (0-6, 6-12 and over 12 months)? If possible we would like this reporting quarterly (say going back 6 quarters) and a comparison to the England number as well please.

DWP response

In response to your question please see the attached document (FOI 2013-895 Response.xls) which gives the number of Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) sanction referrals where the decision was adverse in Great Britain, England and Liverpool, Sefton, Wirral, Knowsley, St Helens and Halton Local Authorities by duration on JSA at the time of referral from 1st Dec 2010 to 31st May 2012

I can confirm that the Department does hold some information on the number of sanction referrals after May 2012. However, due to a problem with the underlying data source we estimate that the cost of providing this information to the level of detail required would exceed the appropriate limit of £600.

The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to provide this information and we will not be processing this further.