

# **Freedom of Information request 5965/2013**

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## **Information request**

Your official statement asserts that there is 'no robust evidence' which supports the link between a huge increase in food bank users in the last three years and the effects of government policies.

This implies that there is some evidence which does support the link, just not robust in your judgement. What research has been undertaken by the DWP on this issue and where is it available?

## **DWP response**

The government does not monitor the use of food banks and has no plans to do so, therefore the information you have requested is not available.

Figures used in the media about foodbanks have been self-reported by food bank providers and their users and the statistics have not been independently checked or verified.