

# Freedom of Information request IR892/2012

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## Information request

Thank you for your request of 29th December to review the reply to your Freedom of Information (Fol) request reference 4836. I have reviewed your original request and the information that was supplied to you.

Your Freedom of Information request was in the following terms:

*The data I am seeking, per message subject, relates to the current workfare programme(s) operated by the Department of Work And Pensions. My specific interest is the criteria used in assessing the suitability of any organization or company to take people on-placement.*

- 1. I wish the complete criteria applied in assessing any organization's, or company's, application to participate.*
- 2. In addition, a summary of number of applications to participate per month, and number accepted/rejected since instituting the programme(s).*

*If time permits, and I am well-aware that identifying information for 3rd parties would require redacted, it would be most-useful to see one or two samples of accepted and rejected applications to participate in the workfare scheme.*

You subsequently provided the following clarification of your request:

*"workfare" is to be construed as measures under the Community Action programme, or any other programme where any policy of the DWP seeks to forcefully encourage those currently on any form of unemployment benefit into work where they receive no significant (5-10%+) increase of financial income above the value of their benefits.*

## DWP response

I have examined this case afresh, and guidance has been sought from domain experts to ensure all factors were taken fully into account. After consideration, I have concluded that the original response should be upheld as the Department does not operate a 'workfare' scheme and, as you specifically requested information on the Community Action Programme the available information the Department holds was provided.

I have conducted this review as an independent official of the Department, of the relevant grade and authority to carry out such requests.