

Freedom of Information request 2950/2013

Received 26 June
Published

Information request

“How many trials have actually taken place and how successful have they been, and or what problems have been encountered? Is it still due to start from OC13 as planned.”

DWP response

On 29 April Universal Credit service went live, as planned, in the North West with Ashton- Under- Lyne taking new Universal Credit Claims and with Wigan, Warrington and Oldham Jobcentres testing the Universal Credit Claimant Commitment.

Since the 1st July Wigan began to take claims to Universal Credit and this service will expand into Oldham and Warrington on the 29th July.

It is too early to make a formal assessment of Universal Credit yet. We are working to UK Statistics Authority guidelines and are undertaking a robust quality assurance process before data is released into the public domain. Formal evaluation of the Pathfinder will begin shortly and we will be releasing our findings in the Autumn.

We have always planned Pathfinder as a careful and controlled approach to ensure all aspects of Universal Credit are tested before we start progressive national roll out from October 2013 with a full transition to Universal Credit by 2017.