

Freedom of Information request 709/2013

Received 12 February 2013

Published

Information request

It is my understanding that if you miss a booked appointment, you may be sanctioned 4 weeks worth of Jobseeker's benefits, with an opportunity to claim 'hardship' after 2 weeks.

I am asking for details on how many people:

**have had to relocate;*

**have become in debt to a company (gas, or electricity, etc.);*

**have been made homeless*

due to the fact that they were unable to pay their bills, rent or mortgages.

I am also asking that if you do not have this information, why not?

The Department for Work and Pensions should ensure that the person who is being sanctioned has enough cash reserves to support themselves in their current position whilst being sanctioned. If not, is this not neglecting your care of duty to the British public?

DWP response

Unfortunately, we do not collect or hold the type of information you have asked for. The Department for Work and Pensions has an ambitious agenda of reform which aims to create a new welfare system for the 21st century; to transform the opportunity for people without jobs to find work and support themselves and their families; and to ensure that the most vulnerable in society are protected.