Freedom of Information request 1680/2013

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Information request

How many Enterprise Clubs, together with their names and contact details, have been set up in the Mercia District (previously Coventry, Warwickshire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire) as a result of accessing up to £10K of grant funding from Job Centre Plus? Please note that this specifically excludes Enterprise Clubs set up by other means and via alternative funding sources, e.g. the European Social Fund, local authorities, etc. Given that the aforementioned New Enterprise Allowance target for the Mercia District is 980, what is the actual take-up of New Enterprise Allowance since NEA commencement on 28 April 2011, in terms of applications received; approval and acceptance onto the scheme and actual startups having completed the 6 month programme.

DWP response

None of the Enterprise Clubs operating in the Mercia district have received funding from Jobcentre Plus.

The number of people taking part in the New Enterprise Allowance (NEA) does not depend in any way on the availability of Enterprise Clubs in any given area.

You asked for various elements of performance data for Mercia district. As was explained in response to your earlier FoI request (ref. 3055, dated 31 August) we do not publish data in the format you have requested. Nationally up to and including November 2012, there have been 31,540 claimants matched to a business mentor, and 15,210 have so far gone on to start trading (made a claim to the weekly allowance).

We do not collect data on how many participants are still trading after 26 weeks. However, we will be publishing analysis in the spring that will show, at a national level, how many people who have made a claim to the NEA allowance have remained off benefits for 26 weeks.

You can access the full statistics data by clicking on the following link: DWP official statistics. Mentor starts and NEA weekly allowance claims for all Jobcentre Plus districts for the period August 2011 up to and including November 2012 have been published on the DWP website and can be found

on the following link:

NEA by area