

Freedom of Information request 5107/2012

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Information request

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the Department for Work and Pensions to provide me with correspondence within the Department on the timing and content of the statistical release of Youth Contract data.

DWP response

The information you have requested is not held centrally and we estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £600. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information and locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.

However if you wish to send a more specific request for information, we may be able to help. For example you could limit the search to a specific element of the Youth Contract, and to the officers/team responsible for producing the statistics.

As some background information, the Youth Contract has a number of elements; the Department for Work and Pensions delivers some, but not all, of these elements.

Statistics on Work Experience and Sector Based Work Academies are published every six months - the latest are at the link below. These programmes, as well as the timetable for release of statistics relating to them, were in place before the introduction of the Youth Contract - statistics on these elements of the Youth Contract are included within this published data.

http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/pwp/pwp_gbw_aug12.pdf

In most cases the wage incentive element of the Youth Contract is paid after a young person has been in work continuously for 26 weeks. Following the collection and quality assurance of this data, the first set of Official Statistics on the wage incentive should be available in the early part of 2013.

The Youth Contract also includes additional advisor support for young people; there will be no official statistics on this element.

The support for 16-17 year old NEETs element of the Youth Contract is owned by the Department for Education.

The Apprenticeship Grants for Employers (AGE 16-24) element of the Youth Contract is owned by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.