Freedom of Information request 2013-1798

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Information request

For the complete years from 2005:

- 1. How may Jobseekers Directions were been issued?
- 2. How many Sanctions were imposed for failure to follow a Jobseekers Direction?
- 3. For each Jobseekers Direction identified in answer to my question 1, how many of them were printed prior to start of the Personal Adviser interview with the claimant? IE, they were pre-planned actions?

To clarify Question 3:

- Personal Adviser "Arnold" drafts and prints a Jobseekers Direction at 1005 ready for Carol's appointment at 1015, at 1020 he gives it to Carol. This is "pre-planned".
- In contrast. Advisor Mary has an appointment with Norman at 1030. She discusses Norman's situation with him and suggests a particular course of action. He doesn't want to do it. After following appropriate procedures, she prints and issues Norman a Jobseekers Direction. The computer record shows this happened at 1045. This is not "pre-planned.

DWP response

Please note that the figures supplied in response to question 1 are derived from unpublished management information which was collected for internal Departmental use only, and have not been quality assured to National Statistics or Official Statistics publication standard. They should therefore be treated with caution.

In response to question 1 the information available is shown in the table below. Data prior to April 2011 is not held by the Department.

Number of Jobseeker's Directions issued by financial year: April 2011 – March 2013

Financial year	Number of Jobseeker's Directions issued
April 2011 to March 2012	514,070
April 2012 to March 2013	622,790

Source: Labour Market System (LMS): Management Information System Portal (MISP) Report

Notes:

- 1. Figures are rounded to the nearest ten.
- Please note that the figures supplied are derived from unpublished management information which was collected for internal Departmental use only, and have not been quality assured to National Statistics or Official Statistics publication standard. They should therefore be treated with caution.

In response to question 2, Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act allows us to direct you to information which is already reasonably accessible to you.

The Department publishes Nationals Statistics on Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) sanctions and disallowances through its Tabulation Tool, which allows you to design your own tables.

For example to produce a table on the number of JSA sanction referrals for refusing to carry out a Jobseeker's Direction where the decision was found against the claimant in each month from April 2000 to October 2012, go to the http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool website and follow the instructions below

- Scroll down to Benefit Caseloads and click on the JSA Sanction & Disallowance Decision Stats link.
- 2. Next select Referrals where a decision has been made for fixed length sanctions (by number of referrals) from the Benefit/Scheme drop down menu.
- 3. In the **Analysis** option, select (**Thousands**).
- 4. Then, from the **Row** drop down menu, select **Time Series**.
- 5. Next, from the Column option, select Reason for referral
- 6. Then, from the **Subset** drop down menu, select **Whether a decision** was **Adverse**.
- 7. From the next **Subset** menu, select **Adverse**.
- 8. Then, select **October 2012** from the **Date** option, which is the latest data available.
- 9. Finally select **Get Table** to produce the statistics you require.

In response to question 3 the information requested is not held by the Department.