

REQUEST	16199	RESPONSE
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many times have you challenged the DWP response because you did not like the reply to your query? 2. Provide a list where you contacted DWP on at least three occasions to obtain information. Include the communication method, gender, ethnicity, age, disability and if any home visits were made. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We have not challenged the DWP however on occasion it is necessary to ask for further information or seek further clarity on information held. 2. We do not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA) relieves a public authority from the obligation to comply with a request for information where the estimated time required to locate, review and extract the information exceeds a certain threshold set out in Regulations. <p>The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (SI 2004/3244) set out the rules in relation to the cost limit (otherwise called the “appropriate limit”). These Regulations are published by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI) and are viewable on their web site from this link: http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2004/uksi_20043244_en.pdf</p> <p>The Regulations set out the cost limit for Government departments and for other public authorities. For local government, Regulation 3 states that the cost limit is £450 and Regulation 4(4) states that the prescribed hourly rate is £25. Regulation 4(4) further provides that where the local authority estimates the time taken to gather the information would exceed this limit (which based on the prescribed hourly rate, equates to 18 officer hours), it may refuse the request under section 12 of FoIA. I am satisfied the cost limit applies to your request and will explain why this is the case. We do not record how many times a correspondence goes back to DWP. We would have to go through every data share sent and then investigate each. Since Jan 2024, we have sent 1805 data shares so if each one was investigated for 2 minutes this would take us over the 18 hour limit.</p>