

Your Ref:**Our Ref:** Fol 3472**Date:** 23 October 2018

Dear Ms Loudon

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 15 August 2018. You asked:

Please provide a full list of planned and on-going research, studies, or evidence reviews into the effects of welfare policy. Please include those being undertaken by DWP as well as those being funded by DWP but carried out by third parties.

DWP Response

The following list (as at 28th August 2018) shows approved research projects that are in planning, fieldwork, or report stage either by DWP staff or by third parties under contract with the department related to the design, delivery and/or evaluation of welfare policies. Any research that has already concluded and been published is not included but can be found on the government's publication website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications>

- Homelessness Feasibility Study exploring options for the development of a model of homelessness and rough sleeping – joint project with Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
- Local Authority Insight Survey wave 34: changes to Local Authority structures and services, and Housing Benefit fraud and error initiatives
- Local Authority Insight Survey wave 35: long-term and specialised supported accommodation
- Local Authority Insight Survey wave 36: discretionary housing payments
- Evaluation of the lower tiered benefit cap
- Work and Health Programme evaluation
- In-work progression research
- European Social Fund and Youth Employment Initiative leavers survey 2016-2018

- European Social Fund 2014-2020: Youth Employment Initiative Impact Evaluation
- Universal Credit Omnibus Survey – how well claimants understand the claim process and their rights and responsibilities
- Rent Payment Analysis and research with social landlords
- Universal Credit and Self-Employment qualitative research
- Employment Support Allowance (ESA) Support Group Research
- Access to Work qualitative research
- Understanding self-employment for those with disabilities and health conditions
- Evaluation of the Small Employer Offer
- Evaluation of the Personal Support Package
- Survey of Child Maintenance Service Direct Pay Clients
- Child Support Agency case closure outcomes survey
- Survey of Child Maintenance arrangements following contact with Options
- Evaluation of the Local Family Offer pilot
- Evaluation of the Reducing Parental Conflict programme
- Evaluation of the Innovation Fund pilot – quantitative assessment of impact and social return on investment
- Evaluation of the Individual Placement and Support for Alcohol and Drug Dependence (IPS-AD), led by Public Health England
- Group Work (JOBS II) Trial
- State Pension Deferral research
- Automatic Enrolment into workplace pensions: Qualitative research with newborn employers
- Institute of Fiscal Studies Retirement Savings Consortium

We are intending to publish outputs from our current research projects in due course, once they have been fully designed and delivered. The Department expects to publish all contracted research within 12 weeks of the final report being completed.

The Department published its Areas of Research Interest¹ (ARI) statement in January 2018. This is a high-level summary of DWP's evidence priorities, aimed at an audience of academics and external researchers. The ARI is not exhaustive or prescriptive, but its objective is to enable universities and external organisations to undertake research which addresses DWP's evidence priorities. The Department is undertaking a programme of proactive academic engagement, visiting Universities across the country and using the ARI as a tool to foster new collaborations and conversations with external researchers.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dwp-areas-of-research-interest>

If you have any queries about this letter please contact us quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

DWP Strategy Fol Team

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing freedom-of-information-request@dwpgsi.gov.uk or by writing to DWP, Central Fol Team, Caxton House, Tothill Street, SW1H 9NA. Any review request should be submitted within two months of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF www.ico.gov.uk