From the Chair

16 January 2019

Rt Hon Amber Rudd MP
Secretary of State for Work and Pensions
Department for Work and Pensions

Dear Amber,

Youth Obligation scheme data and evaluation

The Work and Pensions Committee will be holding a one-off evidence session on the Youth Obligation scheme on Wednesday 30 January, as part of our ongoing scrutiny of Universal Credit.

One question we intend to consider is the availability of data on the Youth Obligation scheme and how the Department plans to evaluate it.

Might you therefore please indicate if your Department collects aggregated data on:

a) The total number of claimants who have taken part in the Youth Obligation scheme (“the scheme”);

b) The number of claimants who were participating in the scheme by period, region, or Jobcentre;

c) The number of claimants who leave the scheme within six months without moving into employment or training;

d) The outcomes of claimants who leave the scheme to take up employment or training (e.g. apprenticeship, permanent employment, etc.);

e) Data on claimant characteristics (e.g. ethnicity, disability, etc.);

f) The number of claimants who take part in:

   a. Sector-based work academy placements;

   b. Traineeships; and
c. Guaranteed work experience placements.

Might you also please indicate if your Department intends to evaluate the performance of the Youth Obligation scheme, and if so, by when, and using what criteria and methodology?

I would be grateful for a response to these questions by no later than 5pm on Wednesday 23 January.

With best wishes, and I look forward to hearing from you,

Rt Hon Frank Field MP
Chair