

IAN PEARSON MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

11 February 2005

Our Ref: 030041

The Rt Hon Jane Kennedy MP
Minister of State
Department for Work and Pensions
Richmond House
79 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2NS

Dear Jane,

Martin Hossack - 92 Granville Drive, Kingswinford, DY6 8LW

Attached is a copy of a letter received by the above from the Parliamentary Ombudsman concerning his complaint against Jobcentre Plus.

Since January 2002, Mr Hossack had tried to get Jobcentre Plus to acknowledge that there had been a breach of data protection. Their failure to deal with the matter correctly resulted in his complaint being referred to the Parliamentary Ombudsman.

You will note that Jobcentre Plus have agreed to make a consolatory payment in relation to wrongful disclosure of £100 for inconvenience and unwarranted personal intrusion, as well as a further payment of £50 in recognition of shortcomings in the handling of his complaint.

Mr Hossack feels that these payments are totally inadequate and do not take into account of how stressful he has found the whole procedure as well as the costs he has incurred, Which he calculated to be up to £8000.

I have to say that the consolatory payments do seem very low and I would be grateful if you could consider if it is possible to, and if so make a further payment to Mr Hossack, and for any comments you may wish to make on this matter.

Yours ever

IAN PEARSON

Enc
Cc Martin Hossack