



**Alfred Anate Mayaki (Student)**  
218 Cator Street  
Greater London  
SE15 5GJ

**Mobile:** +44 (0) 7940 916 731

**Direct:** +44 (0) 2037 455 372

**Email:** [alfred.mayaki@ou.ac.uk](mailto:alfred.mayaki@ou.ac.uk)

OBR/UK Civil Service Recruitment Team  
[hrrecruitment@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:hrrecruitment@hmtreasury.gov.uk)

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**Ref: Update - 400303 - Economist/Data Scientist at The Office of Budget Responsibility**

Dear James,

Good afternoon. I do hope you are keeping well. It is an honour to be considered for this opportunity and just wanted to ask a few questions around the Economist/Data Scientist role itself. I have five additional questions that I would like to seek answers to:

- 1) My first question is about start dates. When is the earliest possible start date given the assumption of a single week's notice?
- 2) My second question is about concurrent learning. I am, as you probably have guessed, still studying on an MSc programme at Open University which I hope will lead to PhD admission. How many hours per week outside of the 38-40 hours of on average work time are we expected to complete? Am I advised to work and study concurrently? Should I consider withdrawing from the modules I have registered for at Open University?
- 3) My third question revolves around the civil service's procedures for reasonable adjustments and neurodiversity. How does the OBR ensure adequate working conditions for employees who may be considered neurodiverse?
- 4) Penultimately, would it be okay if I were allowed to wear traditional African clothes to work on at least one day of the working week, if selected for the position after interview?
- 5) Conclusively, in terms of the counterterrorism checks we are all due to undergo as part of the recruiting process, may I enquire as to whether social media posts in favour of Palestine or posts critical of the government are considered as '*acts of terrorism*'? Should these posts be removed?

Yours Sincerely,

**Alfred Anate Mayaki (Student)**