

DWP Stakeholder Bulletin – July 2013

Welcome to the June 2013 issue of the DWP Stakeholder Bulletin – a newsletter to let you know what is happening in the Department for Work and Pensions.

If you have a comment or feedback about this bulletin, please email corporate.stakeholders@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

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Disability Employment Conference – *Working together*

At today’s Disability Employment Conference around 300 employers and businesses, along with Government, will come together to launch the Government’s ‘Disability Confident’ campaign.

The Prime Minister David Cameron, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions Iain Duncan Smith, and Secretary of State for Business Innovation and Skills Dr Vince Cable, joined employers to talk about the Government’s commitment to inspiring and supporting disabled people to achieve their career aspirations.

A new [Employer Portal](#) has been launched on GOV.UK to support employers in becoming [Disability Confident](#).

Universal Credit Pathfinder

On 1 July the Universal Credit Pathfinder expanded, with Wigan Jobcentre now accepting Universal Credit claims. Warrington and Oldham will accept claims from 29 July.

On 10 July we announced that Universal Credit will roll-out in England, Scotland and Wales from October, with six hub Jobcentres – Hammersmith, Rugby, Inverness, Harrogate, Bath, Shotton – taking new claims.

This includes retraining 20,000 Jobcentre Plus advisers to deliver the Claimant Commitment and enhanced jobsearch support nationally. Ten in-work conditionality pilots will test how best to encourage claimants to progress in work.

We will also roll-out improved access to digital services across Jobcentre Plus with 6000 new computers being installed across the country.

More information about Universal Credit is available on GOV.UK.

Publication of Fulfilling Potential - Making it Happen

Fulfilling Potential is the Government's strategic approach to enabling disabled people to realise their potential and have opportunities to play a full role in society.

On 2 July 2013, the Office for Disability Issues published Fulfilling Potential - Making it Happen. This document sets out how change will be delivered through a comprehensive range of actions. It recognises that Government alone cannot define and deliver what needs to be achieved and describes a new approach of partnership and support with disabled people.

The Making it Happen strategy and action plan, as well as the four previous Fulfilling Potential strategy documents, are available on the Office for Disability Issues website.

Health and productivity of an ageing workforce – employer resource

People are living longer: by 2020 almost a third of the workforce will be aged over 50. This is why DWP has worked with expert organisations in the Age Action Alliance's Healthy Workplaces Group to draw together an easy to use resource for employers on managing the health and productivity of an ageing workforce.

This brings together some of the most useful tools from expert organisations such as Acas, the Health and Safety Executive and the Chartered Institute of Personal Development to offer practical solutions to employer issues.

For further information and to access these resources visit the Age Action Alliance website.

Providing evidence earlier in the dispute and appeals process

Changes being introduced as part of Appeals Reform aim to resolve more disputes at the earliest opportunity within DWP, and in doing so reduce the number of appeals.

Claimants should be encouraged to provide all appropriate evidence when they first make a claim, rather than later in the process. This will help DWP ensure the decision is right first time. If, however, a claimant finds they have overlooked any relevant evidence, they should send it to DWP immediately.

Providing all evidence at the outset of a claim will improve the decision making process for both DWP and claimants.

Further information about Appeals Reform is available on the [DWP website](#).

Tell Us Once reaches key milestone

Tell Us Once is a service which enables people to notify up to 28 central and local government services of a birth or death just once, saving time and stress.

Offered in partnership with central government departments and local authorities, Tell Us Once is available to 51 million people and has helped over half a million people to date.

The service is now offered by 89% of local authorities in the UK, with more signing up in 2013.

Further information is available on [GOV.UK](#).

DWP consultations

All current live DWP consultations and the latest published consultation responses are available on the [consultation pages](#) of GOV.UK.

[Local Housing Allowance Targeted Affordability Funding: call for evidence](#). Closing date 28 July 2013.

[Triennial Review of Pensions Bodies](#). Closing date 9 August 2013.

[Fourth independent review of the Work Capability Assessment \(WCA\)](#). Closing date 27 August 2013.

[Quality standards in workplace defined contribution pension schemes](#). Closing date 9 September 2013.