

# Housing Benefit

## General Information Bulletin

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<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions>

ISSN 2054-2836 (Online)

**HB G6/2014**

**16 June 2014**

<b>Contact</b>	Queries about the <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>technical content of this bulletin</b>, contact details are given at the end of each article</li><li>• distribution of this bulletin, contact <a href="mailto:housing.correspondenceandpqs@dwp.gsi.gov.uk">housing.correspondenceandpqs@dwp.gsi.gov.uk</a></li></ul>
<b>Who should read</b>	All Housing Benefit staff
<b>Action</b>	For information

## Contents

### Paragraph

Call for Evidence: Work Capability Assessment Independent Review.....	1
Official experimental Universal Credit statistics.....	7
Statutory Instruments.....	12
What's new on the web.....	14

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## Call for Evidence: Work Capability Assessment Independent Review

1. A Call for Evidence for the fifth and final statutory independent review of the Work Capability Assessment (WCA) started on 10 June and runs until 15 August 2014. The review is the second carried out by Dr Paul Litchfield.
2. Dr Litchfield is particularly interested in any new evidence that will help to improve the assessment. Please respond if you have information about how the WCA is operating or on any further changes that might improve the process.
3. You can respond using an online survey, by email or by post. Visit [WCA on GOV.UK](#) for more information, including the questions, survey link, the previous four reviews and the government's responses to those reviews. Professor Malcolm Harrington led the first three reviews, which took place before 2013.
4. The Call for Evidence is one of many ways that Dr Litchfield will gather information during the review, all of which will inform his report to the Secretary of State for DWP.
5. Dr Litchfield is Chief Medical Officer for BT. His field of expertise includes mental illness and the impact it can have on work prospects. He has played a key role in highlighting the economic impact of chronic diseases, as a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council.
6. Visit [WCA on GOV.UK](#) or contact [wca.evidence@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:wca.evidence@dwp.gsi.gov.uk) for more information.

## Official experimental Universal Credit statistics

7. On the 11 June 2014 the DWP published the latest set of experimental statistics for Universal Credit areas for the period April 2013 to 31 March 2014.
8. The statistics cover total live caseload and starts on Universal Credit, with breakdowns by Jobcentre Plus office, LA, parliamentary constituency, gender, age band and duration.
9. The key details are that:
  - between April 2013 and 31 March 2014, a total of 6,550 people started on Universal Credit
  - the majority are males, with a male to female ratio around 7:3
  - most new claims are from unemployed people aged under 25

10. The Universal Credit caseload at 31 March 2014 was 5,610 and over 6 in 10 were under 25.

11. The statistics can be accessed through the following link -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/universal-credit-statistics>

## Statutory Instruments

12. The following Statutory Instruments (SIs) have been laid:

- 2014 No.1386, The Child Support (Consequential and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2014, coming into force from 30 June 2014
- 2014 No. 1423, The Child Support (Northern Ireland Reciprocal Arrangements) Amendment Regulations 2014, coming into force 30 June 2014
- 2014 No.1452, The Welfare Reform Act 2012 (Commencement No. 9, 11, 13, 14 and 16 and Transitional and Transitory Provisions (Amendment)) Order 2014, made on 4 June 2014
- 2014 No.1456, The Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) (Lump Sum Payments) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, coming into force 1 July 2014
- [ISBN 978-0-11-111536-7](#), The Jobseeker's Allowance (Supervised Jobsearch Pilot Scheme) Regulations 2014, DRAFT legislation

13. Copies of SIs can now be downloaded from DWP's own website

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/publications/specialist-guides/law-volumes/the-law-relating-to-social-security/> and the website of the Office of Publication Sector Information <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/stat.htm>

## What's new on the web

14. The following items can be found on the website link shown

Document Type	Subject	Link
HB A11/2014	Process to obtain Personal Independence Payment information not available by CIS	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hb-circular-a112014-pip-information-not-available-using-the-customer-information-system">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hb-circular-a112014-pip-information-not-available-using-the-customer-information-system</a>

<b>HB S5/2014</b>	Rent Rebate Subsidy Limitation information – 2014/15	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hb-subsidy-circular-s52014-rent-rebate-subsidy-limitation-information-apr-2014-to-mar-2015">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hb-subsidy-circular-s52014-rent-rebate-subsidy-limitation-information-apr-2014-to-mar-2015</a>
<b>HB G5/2014</b>	Tax credits: proof of entitlement  Local Support Services  Update on cases with the Upper Tribunal  Statutory Instruments  What's new on the web  <b>Appendix 1:</b> Example of Annual Review notice	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hb-bulletin-g52014">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hb-bulletin-g52014</a>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/313045/g5-2014-appendix.pdf">https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/313045/g5-2014-appendix.pdf</a>
<b>HB Direct issue 149 June 2014</b>	Newsletter	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hb-direct-june-2014-issue-149">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hb-direct-june-2014-issue-149</a>
<b>Publication</b>	Welfare Reform Communications Toolkit updated 22 May	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/welfare-reform-communications-toolkit">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/welfare-reform-communications-toolkit</a>