

Freedom of Information request 2014-3416

Date received 30 July 2014

Date of response 19 August 2014

Information request

“I have been looking at data with regards to sanctions in Brighton & Hove. I can see since the new sanction regime came in that there has been 2,749 adverse JSA decisions and that 616 of these have been on disabled people.

Please could you tell me how many of those 616 had mental health conditions?

Also – 48 people in Brighton & Hove have received adverse ESA sanction decisions since Dec 12

Please could you tell me how many of those had mental health conditions? ”

DWP response

Please note that all of the figures you have quoted relate to the number of adverse sanction decisions made rather than the number of people who have received an adverse sanction (some individuals may have received more than one adverse decision). We have therefore interpreted your request as requiring further information on the number of adverse sanction decisions made.

With regards to your query relating to the number of adverse Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) sanctions in which the individual an ICD (disease) Summary Code of “Mental and Behavioural Disorders” in Brighton and Hove Local Authority, this information can be found in the table below:

Please note that the figures supplied are derived from unpublished information and have not been quality assured to National Statistics or Official Statistics publication standard. They should therefore be treated with caution. Please read the table notes.

Number of Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) adverse sanction decisions, with an ICD (disease) Summary Code of ‘Mental and Behavioural Disorders’, Brighton & Hove: 3 December 2012 – 31 December 2013

Local Authority	Number of Adverse sanction decisions	Of which: ‘Mental and Behavioural Disorders’
Brighton & Hove	48	28

Source: DWP Information, Governance and Security Directorate: Sanctions and Disallowance Decisions Statistics Database.

Notes:

1. Cells in this table have had statistical disclosure control applied to avoid the release of confidential data.
2. Figures are from 3 December 2012, which is the start of the new sanctions regime, up to 31 December 2013, which is the latest data available.
3. ICD (disease) summary code: ICD (disease) code Causes of incapacity are based on the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, published by the World Health Organisation. Medical condition is based on evidence provided at the start of the claim and so may not represent a claimant's most recent medical condition. Please also note that where someone has more than one diagnosis or disabling condition only the predominant one is used.
4. Please note that the figures supplied are derived from unpublished information and have not been quality assured to National Statistics or Official Statistics publication standard. They should therefore be treated with caution.

With regards to your query relating to the number of adverse Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) sanctions by medical condition, we can confirm that the Department does hold some information falling within the description specified in your request. However, we estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £600.

The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.

A person can self-declare in the Jobcentre whether or not they consider themselves to *"have a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities"* however information is not collated on the type of impairment declared.