

Freedom of Information request 315/2013

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Information request

Dear Department for Work and Pensions,

In answer to the question about how many individuals will be have access to the new flat rate pension according to country/overseas, the answer given was that no information is available. Given that different indexation rights apply to those abroad, what credibility can be given to the costing estimate of the new pension? Will you hand over the costing to a body, such as the Public Accounts Comm. for an 'outside the civil service' check and will you make the assessment public?

DWP response

The single-tier cost estimates published in the White Paper, *The single-tier pension: a simple foundation for saving* were quality assured within the Department, and the cost estimates and methodology were independently verified by the Government Actuary's Department.

Section 3.3 of the related Impact Assessment which can be found at <http://dwp.gov.uk/docs/single-tier-pension-impact-assessment.pdf> contains our estimates of the impact on people living outside of Great Britain. Annex A of the Impact Assessment sets out the methodology the Department used to calculate the change in overseas expenditure as a result of the reforms.