FOI Release Information released under the Freedom of Information Act

Title: Ordinary or Statutory Paternity Pay from Employers

Date of release: 13 February 2014

Information request

Statistics regarding the number of fathers who have received the following payments from their employer (ideally in the last three years):

- 1. Ordinary Statutory Paternity Pay
- 2. Additional Statutory Paternity Pay (fathers receiving instead of mothers).

Information released

The figures for statutory payments (Ordinary Statutory Paternity Pay (OSPP) Additional Statutory Paternity Pay (ASPP) between 2010 & 2013 are:

	Number of claimants	Total claimed	Average claim
2010/11			
OSPP***	205,100	£45,694,108	£229.79
20011/12			
OSPP	204,600	£46,634,848	£227.93
ASPP*	2,150	£6,724,684****	£3,023****
2012/13 **			
OSPP	208,600	£50,324,710	£241.25
ASPP*	3,867	£5,824,930	£1,218

All figures are estimates using the HMRC CANDIF database. Figures are calculated using a 2% or 3% scan of employer National Insurance returns and scaling the results up to create a 100% estimate. Scan conducted in January 2014.

^{*}ASPP was introduced for parents of babies due on or after April 2011.

^{**2012/13} figures are based on partial data.

*** 2010/11 figures for OSPP were corrupted in the January 2014 scan; figures given are from May 2013 scan.

**** 2011/12 was the first year that ASPP was claimed, a minority of employers incorrectly completed allocating other statutory payments to the ASPP field in the return. This means that the average and total claims are significantly higher than actual.

Statutory Paternity Pay and Additional Statutory Paternity Pay can be paid to men and women. In order to qualify for pay individuals must be the father or the mothers partner or for adoption, the other adopter. The gender and relationship to the mother/ adopter of the individual is not reported to HMRC.

The numbers above relate to statutory payments paid by employers to their employees and the employer has claimed the statutory payment back. Some employers do not claim statutory payments back (this is especially true when the employer pays occupational paternity pay above the statutory rate because the leave and pay is only available for 2 weeks at a flat rate (currently £136.78)).