

Freedom of Information request 3787/2014

Received 01 September 2014

Published

Information request

1. Can the DWP counter the GP's advice, while the patient is still under charge of a consultant, in advising a claimant (not Customer) in cancelling a sick note?
2. Can the DWP revoke a Fit Note without proper examination of a patient?

DWP response

DWP values the advice and opinion of GPs and medical experts and gives due consideration to their advice. We also take into account fit notes, the Atos healthcare professional's advice, any further medical evidence provided by the GP and any other appropriate evidence to make a decision on entitlement for Employment and Support Allowance.

Where we do not have enough evidence on the claimant's current condition to determine benefit entitlement based on paper evidence alone, we will carry out a face-to-face assessment.