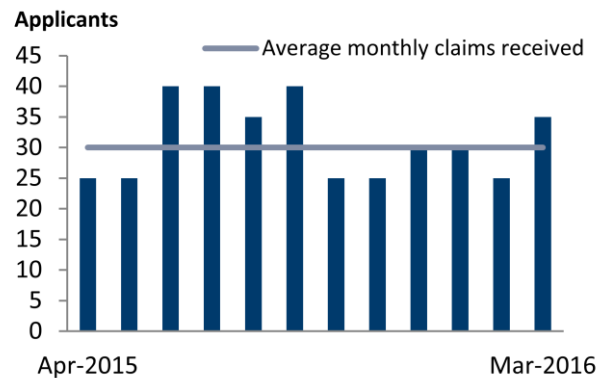


The Diffuse Mesothelioma Payment Scheme (DMPS) was launched throughout the UK on 6 April 2014. It provides payments to eligible sufferers of diffuse mesothelioma, or their eligible dependants, who were negligently exposed to asbestos during a period of employment, but who are unable to take legal action to seek financial redress via the civil courts. The DMPS is paid for via a levy on the insurance industry. This is the third official statistics publication in this series. This release contains statistics reporting on the DMPS, including applications received, success rates and payments for the last 24 months, with data to 31 March 2016.

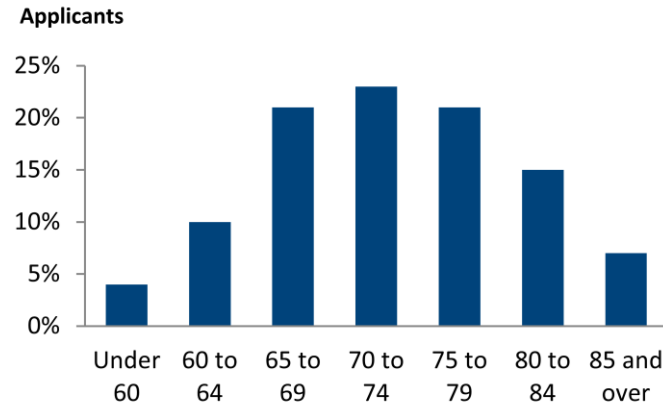
Main

Total applicants



Total applicants average (mean) 30 per month in the last 12 months

Age at diagnosis



In the last 12 months, applicants were predominantly in the 65-79 age groups

Success

65%

65 per cent of applicants in the last 12 months have been successful

At a glance

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Thoughts? We welcome [feedback](#)

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What you need to know

The DMPS was established under powers set out in the Mesothelioma Act 2014. It makes payments to people diagnosed with diffuse mesothelioma on or after 25 July 2012 who contracted the disease as a result of negligent exposure to asbestos at work in the United Kingdom, and who are unable to claim damages because the employer no longer exists and the employer's liability insurer cannot be traced. Payments can also be made to eligible dependants of people who have died as a result of the disease before they could make an application to the Scheme.

The Scheme is funded by a levy on the insurance industry. Regulations require active employers' liability insurers to pay an annual levy based on their relative market share for the purpose of meeting the full costs of the Scheme (for example, the capital payments made to applicants, administration costs, costs associated with collecting the levy). In the first year of the Scheme's operation (April 2014 to March 2015) the levy was £32m. The levy for the financial year 2015/16 was announced on 12 January 2016 and set at £23.2m.

Official statistics relating to the Scheme are sourced from data originally collected by Gallagher Basset International Ltd (the Scheme Administrator) on behalf of the DWP. To reflect any updates, the full historical statistical series will be refreshed with each release and so previous figures may be updated based on new data. For example, applications with pending decisions may become successful or unsuccessful in subsequent releases.

Summary of additional available data

All the information underpinning the charts and figures featured in this summary is included in accompanying excel tables.

Notes

To avoid disclosing information about individual applicants, all volumes have been rounded to the nearest 5, percentages to the nearest 1per cent, total payment to the nearest £0.1 million and average payments to the nearest £1,000. Consequently, there may be slight discrepancies in final figures due to rounding.

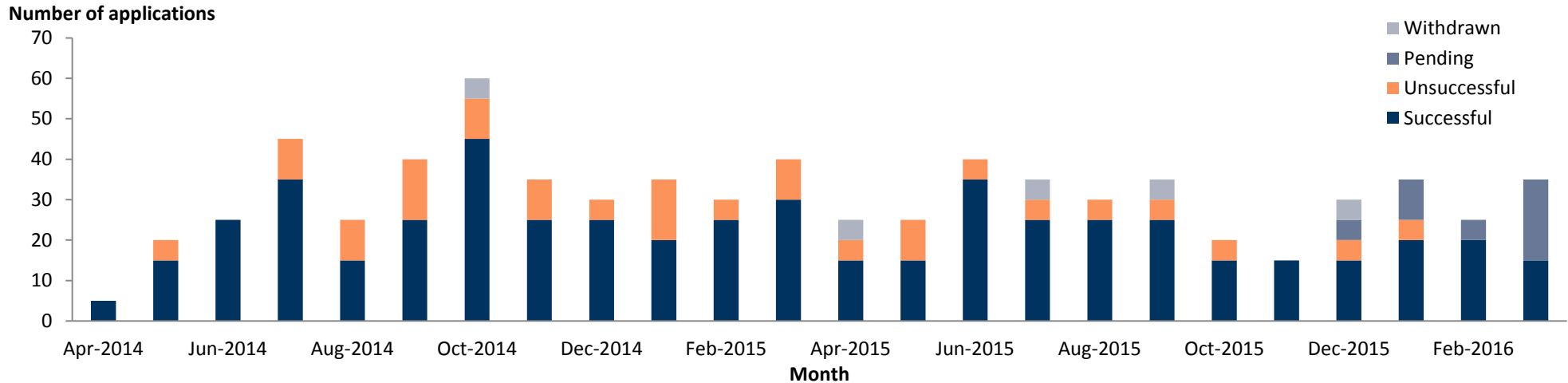
Data covers the period from 1 April 2014 to 30 March 2016 although it is acknowledged that the scheme did not open to receive applications until 6 April 2014.

We welcome feedback on the material provided to improve future releases.

Applications

Two thirds of applications have been successful.

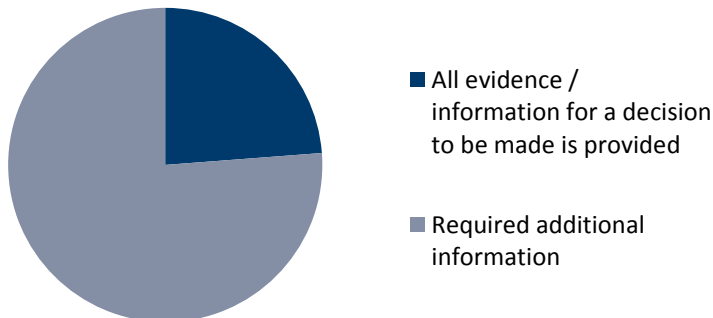
Applications received by the Scheme may be recorded as successful, unsuccessful, withdrawn or have a decision pending as at 31st March.



Almost two thirds (65 per cent) of all applications received in the last 12 months have been successful compared to 68 per cent across all months. In the last 12 months, 16 per cent of applications have been unsuccessful, 12 per cent have pending decisions and 7 per cent have been withdrawn. Over the next few months pending applications will turn into successful or unsuccessful, which will be recorded under the month the application was received.

Removing pending applicants, 74 per cent of applications received in the last 12 months were successful; this compares to 73 per cent across all months.

Three quarters of applications required additional information.



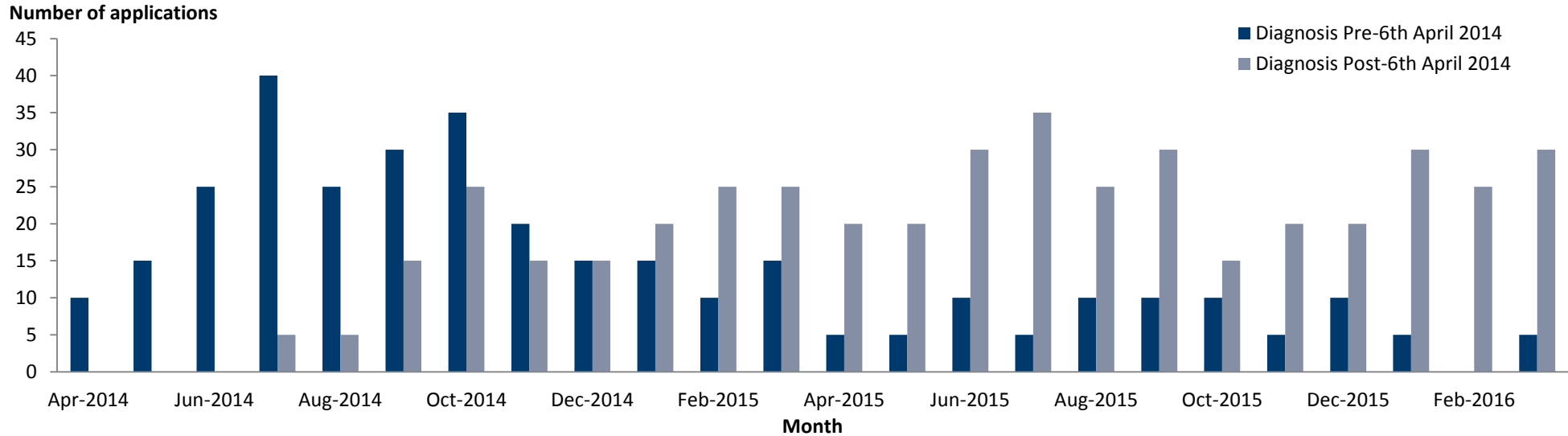
In the last 12 months, 72 per cent of applications required more information than was initially provided in order for a decision to be made, compared to 76 per cent across all months. Where an applicant believes they are entitled to claim, early completion of the application is encouraged.

The Scheme Administrator acknowledges receipt and holds the claim until all the necessary evidence is provided by the applicant. Some evidence can be more difficult to obtain, for example, if the applicant is required to trace ex-employers/employers' liability insurers where a significant time lapse may have occurred.

Applicants

Number of applicants diagnosed pre-6th April 2014 has tailed off.

The Scheme launched on 6 April 2014, accepting applications from individuals diagnosed with diffuse mesothelioma on or after 25 July 2012.



Initially the bulk of applications received related to a diagnosis pre-6 April 2014. This may have included a ‘stock’ of eligible people waiting for the Scheme to open. Since January 2015 more applications have been received from individuals diagnosed after the Scheme was launched on 6 April 2014 than from those diagnosed pre-6 April 2014.

The majority of applicants have been male



The vast majority (92 per cent) of applicants in the last 12 months have been male. Across all months, this figure is 94 per cent. The higher male proportion reflects the professions where exposure to asbestos and therefore the risk of suffering from diffuse mesothelioma have been high. For example carpenters, plumbers, electricians, dockers, ship builders and metal workers in the 1960s and 70s.

[Source: Institute of Cancer Research and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine for HSE (2009) “Occupational, domestic and environmental mesothelioma risks in Britain.”]

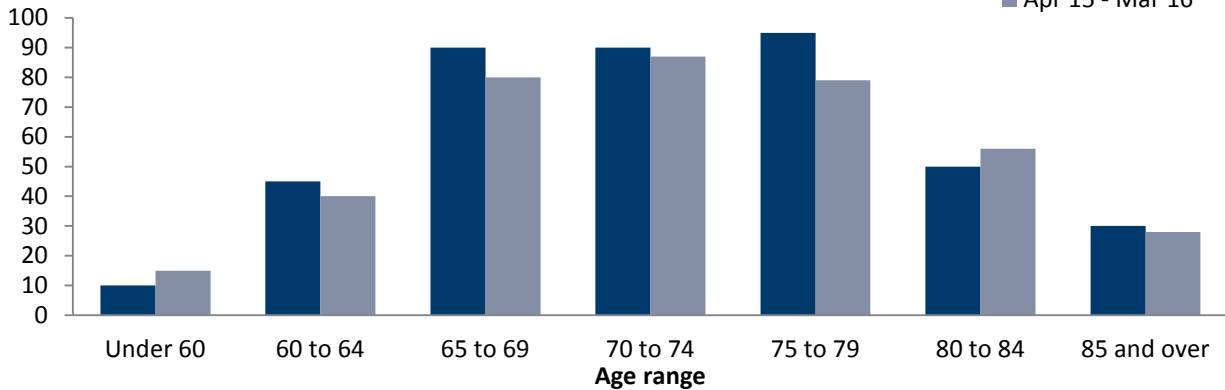
Applicant Age

Applicants' age at diagnosis is predominantly in the 65 to 79 age group.

There are no age restrictions on applicants but the amount received will depend on the age of the applicant at the point of diagnosis.

Applicants' age of diagnosis

Number of applications

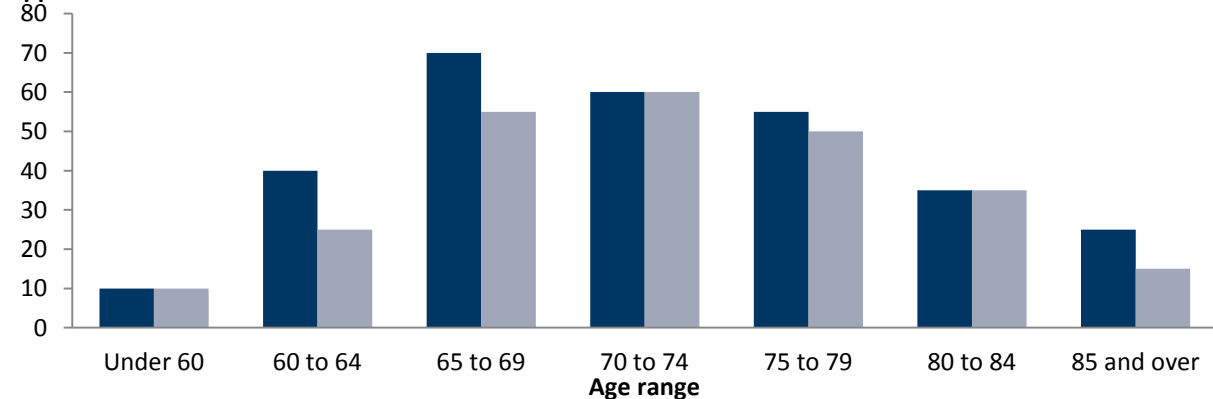


There has been no significant change in applicant age range spread in the last 12 months compared to the previous 12 months.

In the last 12 months, 246 (65 per cent) applicants were aged between 65 and 79 when they were diagnosed with diffuse mesothelioma, compared with 67 per cent in the previous 12 months.

Successful applicants' age at diagnosis

Number of applicants

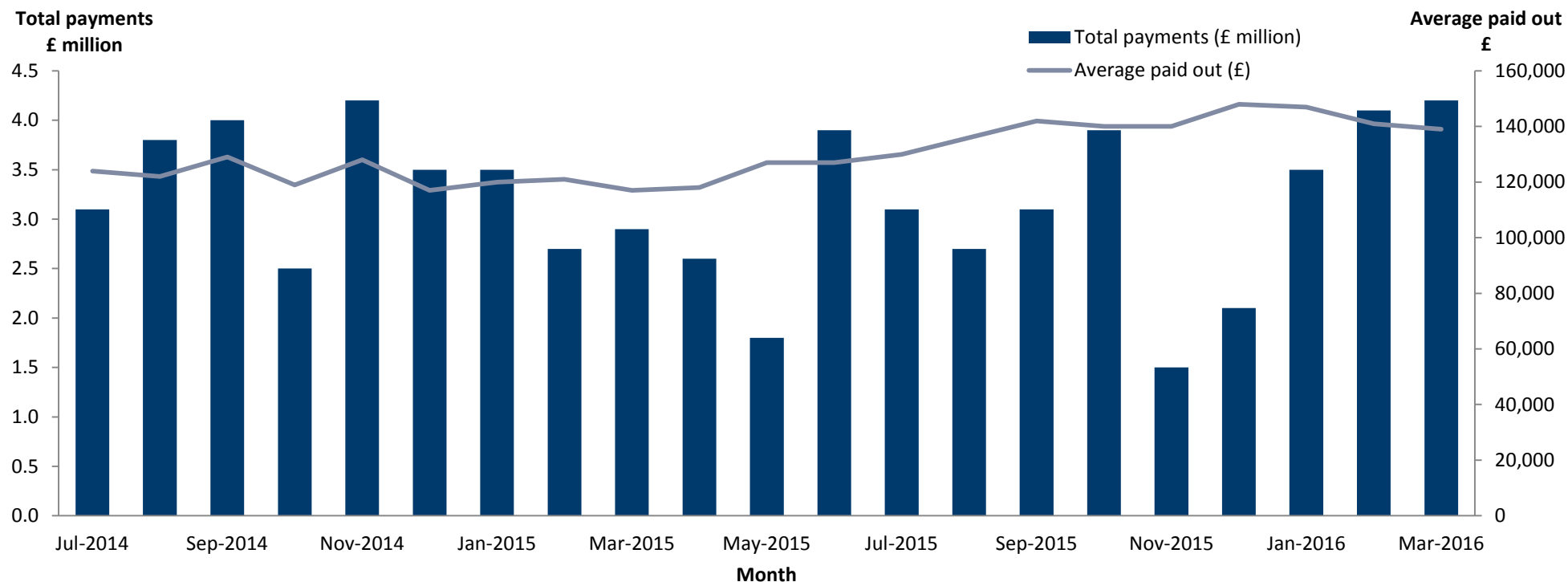


Almost two thirds of successful applicants (65 per cent) were aged between 65 and 79. This is very similar to the previous 12 months, where 64 per cent were between 65 and 79.

Payments

Over £47.4 million awarded in compensation.

Between April 2014 and February 2015 the Scheme regulations specified that successful applicants be paid equivalent to 80% of the average payment they would have received if they had been successful through the civil courts system. In February 2015, the scheme's tariff payment was increased to 100% of average equivalent civil compensation payments for those that were diagnosed either on or after 10th February 2015. Due to the time taken from application to decision, generally, the full effects of the change are not seen in average award figures until May 2015 onwards, and average awards are therefore expected to continue to increase as more are diagnosed on or after 10th February 2015 than before, each month.



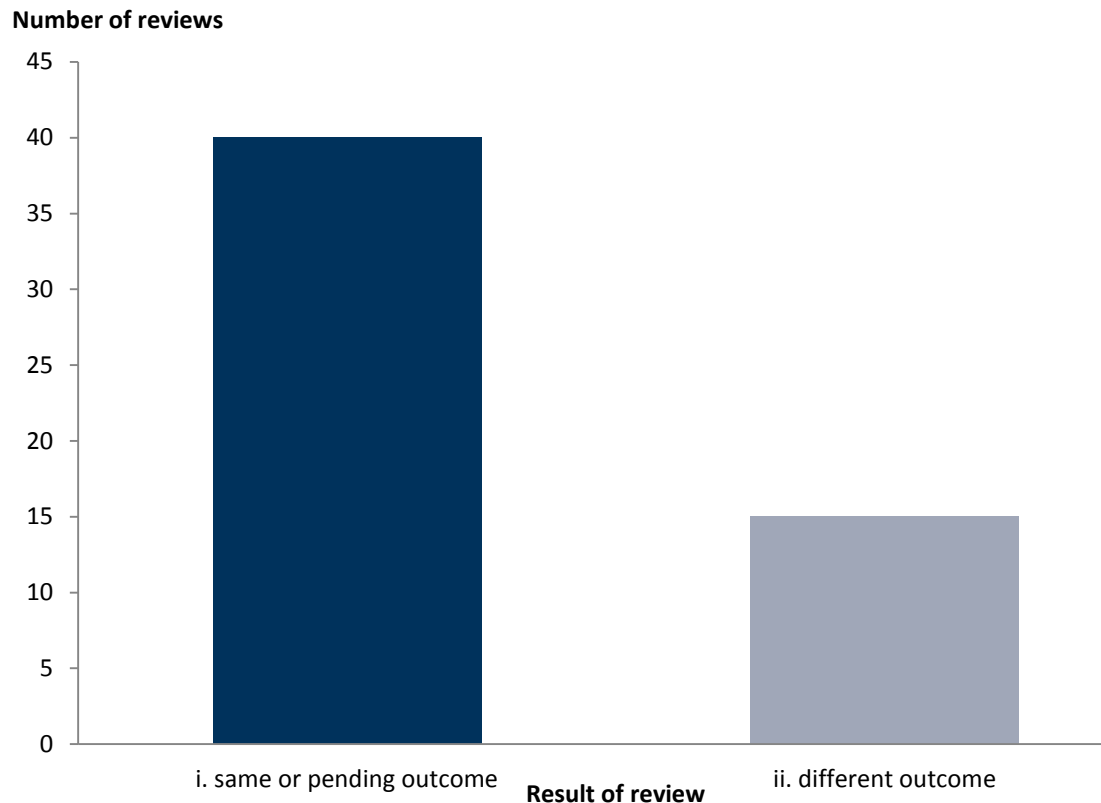
The average (mean) award to successful applicants for the last 12 months was around £135,000, up from £122,000 in the first 12 months.

Since July 2014, a total of £62.2 million has been awarded. This consists of £50.4 million of direct payments to applicants and £11.8m which was repaid to the Department for Work and Pensions. Where a person has already received government payments in respect of diffuse mesothelioma, this money is recovered from Scheme payments in accordance with the well-established principle that people should not receive money twice in respect of the same injury or disease. The liability to repay social security benefits rests with the person who makes the compensation payment (in this case the Scheme Administrator) and not the person suffering from the disease.

Reviews and Complaints

One quarter of reviews resulted in a different outcome for the applicant.

There have been no complaints since the start of the scheme.



If an applicant is unhappy with the outcome of their claim they may request that Gallagher Bassett review the decision of their application, giving reasons why they feel the decision was incorrect. If an applicant remains dissatisfied once the review has been completed, they may request that an independent appeal tribunal (known as the first tier tribunal) consider their case.

Of the 60 unsuccessful applicants in the last 12 months there have been 15 reviews. Across all months, there have been 55 reviews from the 160 unsuccessful applicants. Combined, around a quarter (15) of these 55 reviewed decisions resulted in a different outcome. This was often because additional information was supplied by the applicant that had not been available to the Scheme Administrator at the time of the first decision.

Five applicants were unhappy with their review decision and chose to refer their case to the First-tier Tribunal in last 12 months, compared to 20 across all months.

There have been no complaints made by applicants since the Scheme was first introduced.

About these statistics

Useful links

More information can be found about the Diffuse Mesothelioma Payment Scheme at: <https://mesoscheme.org.uk> or www.gov.uk/diffuse-mesothelioma-payment/overview

The previous two publications can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/diffuse-mesothelioma-payment-scheme-statistics>

Other National and Official Statistics

Details of other National and Official Statistics produced by the Department for Work and Pensions can be found on the DWP website at the following links:

- A list of Tabulation Tools: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/series/dwp-statistics-tabulation-tool>;
- A schedule of statistical releases over the next 12 months and a list of the most recent releases: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/about/statistics>;
- In accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, all DWP National Statistics are announced at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements>

In addition, users can find links to DWP additional statistical analyses that have not been included in our standard publications at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/series/ad-hoc-statistical-publications-list>

If you would like to receive occasional e-mails from DWP to directly inform you of documents seeking the views of users, please email general.statistics@dwp.gsi.gov.uk giving details of the DWP publications you use.