

Freedom of Information request 2369/2011

Received 12 August 2011
Published 23 September 2011

Information request

I would like a list of all mesothelioma claims under the Pneumoconiosis Worker's Compensation Act including month of filing, gender of claimant, amount awarded, age of claimant.

If any of the above specifics are not available please include as much detail as possible.

DWP response

Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act allows us to direct you to information which is already reasonably accessible to you.

Information on Pneumoconiosis (Worker's Compensation) Act 1979, including the rates in payment and eligibility conditions are available on the DirectGov website at:

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/MoneyTaxAndBenefits/BenefitsTaxCreditsAndOtherSupport/Disabledpeople/DG_186001 .

Information on the number of claims and amount paid by month from April 2007 to June 2011 under the Pneumoconiosis (Worker's Compensation) Act 1979 are published alongside Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (IIDB) National Statistics. This publication provides information on people who are disabled because of an industrial accident or prescribed industrial disease. See table 3.1 - Pneumoconiosis (Worker's Compensation) Act 1979 by type of claimant and payment: <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=iidb> .

The attached Excel spreadsheet provides the information requested for Mesothelioma only claims under the Worker's Compensation Act 1979 by month, gender, age breakdown and amount awarded for the period October 2008 to June 2011.

Information for the period April 2007 to September 2008 by the breakdown requested is not available. Information for this period is held clerically. We estimate that the cost of collating information from the clerical returns 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 the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.