

# Freedom of Information request 1736/2014

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## Information request

I am writing to request information regarding the change from the Disability Living Allowance to the Personal Independence Payment.

My aim is to find out the number of vehicles that will be returned/withdrawn/repossessed/sold on as a result of people losing their DLA higher mobility entitlement as they are reassessed through PIP. Below is what I have found so far.

### Statistics already obtained online

([https://fullfact.org/factchecks/will\\_90000\\_disabled\\_DLA\\_lose\\_motability\\_vehicles\\_under\\_PIP-27855](https://fullfact.org/factchecks/will_90000_disabled_DLA_lose_motability_vehicles_under_PIP-27855))

- If DLA had remained, an estimated 900,000 people would receive the lower mobility rate DLA and 1,040,000 would receive the upper mobility rate by 2015/16.
- In comparison, the number of people on PIP's standard mobility rate would be 550,000 by 2015/16, with 760,000 receiving enhanced mobility rate.
- Therefore by 2015/16 **280,000 fewer people** are projected to receive the upper mobility component, due to different assessment criteria for PIP
- Applying Motability's estimation that 1 in 3 of those receiving the upper mobility rate uses the Motability Scheme, if 280,000 lose the upper mobility rate eligibility by 2015/16, **93,000 vehicles/scooters will be returned/withdrawn/sold on and repossessed**

The problem with the 93,000 estimate

- We cannot verify whether the 280,000 people losing out in 2015/16 will be representative of current claimants or whether they represent those on the cusp of eligibility who are less likely to use the Motability scheme, opting for cash payment instead
- If the statement above is true, 93,000 vehicles may be an overestimate

Subsequently, I need some numbers from the Government on how many people they have forecast will stop using Motability vehicles. Any information would be much appreciated.

## **DWP response**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 2 April 2014. You asked:

The Motability scheme is open to disabled people who receive the higher rate mobility component of Disability Living Allowance (DLA), War Pensioners Mobility Supplement and Armed Forces Independence Payment.

Personal Independence Payment (PIP) will continue to provide access to the Motability Scheme and those in receipt of the enhanced mobility component of Personal Independence Payment will be able to join the scheme if they wish to do so.

Currently, only around a third of recipients who receive the higher rate mobility component of DLA (and who currently make up the vast majority of scheme customers) have chosen to join Motability - the remaining two thirds have not.

We are continuing to work closely with Motability to understand what impact PIP might have on their customer numbers. Natural reassessment of DLA recipients to PIP started on a controlled basis on 28 October 2013 and it is too early to form a reliable estimate from live running of the number of DLA recipients who are Motability users who may not qualify for Personal Independence Payment or the enhanced mobility component of Personal Independence Payment. In addition, the vast majority of reassessments will not start until October 2015.

As an independent charitable organisation, Motability is responsible for collecting its own management information including the number of people who had their cars withdrawn because they no longer received the higher rate mobility component of DLA, the numbers of cars recovered and the numbers of cars the scheme has sold. Questions about Motability can be sent to: Declan O'Mahony, Director, Motability, Warwick House, Roydon Road, Harlow, Essex, CM19 5PX.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely