

# Freedom of Information request 1233/2011

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## Information request

'I am writing to request the names of the independent specialists advising on the new assessment that will test eligibility for the benefit set to replace disability living allowance (DLA).'

## DWP response

The members of the Assessment Development Group who are assisting the Department in the development of the new assessment for Personal Independence Payment, are as follows:

- Anne Byrne – Occupational Therapist, representing the College of Occupational Therapists
- Itai Chikomo – Community psychiatric nurse/Deputy Manager, attending as an independent member
- John Chisholm – General Practitioner and Member of Council, Royal College of General Practitioners, representing the College
- Hugh Constant – Social worker and practice development manager, representing the Social Care Institute for Excellence
- Judith Holt – Occupational Therapist, attending as an independent member
- Andy Rickell – Representing Equality 2025, a non-departmental public body set up to advise government on disability equality
- Marije Davidson – Public Affairs Manager for RADAR, representing RADAR
- Tom Sensky – Consultant psychiatrist, attending as an independent member
- Jenny Storer – Health visitor, attending as an independent member
- Annette Swinkels – Physiotherapist and researcher, attending as an independent member

For your information, these details are also contained in a policy briefing document that was published on Monday 9 May, alongside an initial draft of regulations on the assessment to inform discussions in Parliament on the Welfare Reform Bill. A link to the document has been detailed below for your information.

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/welfare-reform/legislation-and-key-documents/welfare-reform-bill-2011/personal-independence-payment-briefing/>