Freedom of Information request 504/2013

Received 01 February 2013 Published 03 May 2013

Information request

Could you please inform me of the total number of people who, while applying for Employment and Support Allowance, have been given (1) a face-to-face Work Capability Assessment, and (2) a paper-based Assessment, divided into the following groups:

a) People placed in the support group after being reassessed from Incapacity Benefit

b) People placed in the support group following a first ESA claim

c) People placed in the support group following a repeat ESA claim

d) People placed in the work-related activity group after being reassessed from Incapacity Benefit

e) People placed in the work-related activity group following a first ESA claim
f) People placed in the work-related activity group following a repeat ESA claim

g) People found fit for work after being reassessed from Incapacity Benefit

h) People found fit for work following a first ESA claim

i) People found fit for work following a repeat ESA claim

DWP response

For new ESA claims, at the initial assessment, only Support Group recommendations can be made using paper evidence only. At repeat assessments and for Incapacity Benefit Reassessment, both SG and WRAG recommendations can be made using paper evidence only. Therefore assessments referred to in questions e), g), h) and i) are entirely face-to-face so the numbers can be obtained from our standard publications.

http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/workingage/esa_wca/esa_wca_jan2013_table s.xls

http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/workingage/esa_ibr/esa_ibr_jan13.xls

We are currently preparing an ad hoc publication covering statistics on paperbased Incapacity Benefit Reassessments and paper-based assessments for new Employment and Support Allowance claims. As this will include initial and repeat assessments I expect that all your remaining questions will be covered within this publication.