

# **Freedom of Information request 2014-4484**

**Date received 7 October 2014**

**Date of response 23 February 2015**

## **Information request**

I am interested in Employment and Support Allowance paid to patients in secure psychiatric Hospitals

Please can you tell me the number of patients receiving Employment and Support Allowance in each of the high secure psychiatric hospitals (Ashworth, Broadmoor and Rampton) for each of the last three years (2011 - 2013 inclusive)?

Please can you also tell me how much has been paid in ESA benefits to patients of each of the high secure psychiatric hospitals for each of the last three years?

I hope my request is clear enough, but please don't hesitate to contact me if you need any further information.

## **DWP response**

Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) is not payable to prisoners convicted of an offence and given a custodial sentence, including where the sentence is being served in a special hospital.

People who are patients in a secure hospital who are not serving a sentence are entitled to ESA in the same way as any other hospital in-patient. These may be people who have been deemed too ill to face a criminal trial. Hospital in-patients receive the same rate of benefit as people living at home, except after 52 weeks in hospital all additional elements are withdrawn.

Information on rates payable for ESA can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/employment-support-allowance/what-youll-get>

Please find below in table 1 the number of patients receiving ESA by hospital, May 2011 – May 2014. We are unable to provide the total amount paid within cost but we can supply the average weekly amount paid to recipients and this is shown in table 2.

**Please note that the figures supplied are derived from unpublished information and have not been quality assured to National Statistics or Official Statistics publication standard. They should therefore be treated with caution.**

**Table 1: Number of patients receiving Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) in Rampton, Ashworth and Broadmoor hospitals, May 2011 to May 2014**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Rampton</b>	<b>Ashworth</b>	<b>Broadmoor</b>
<b>May-2011</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>May-2012</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>May-2013</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>May-2014</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 2: Average weekly amount of ESA paid to patients in Rampton, Ashworth and Broadmoor hospitals, May 2011 to May 2014**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Rampton</b>	<b>Ashworth</b>	<b>Broadmoor</b>
<b>May-2011</b>	<b>78.75</b>	<b>69.50</b>	<b>96.19</b>	<b>68.58</b>
<b>May-2012</b>	<b>81.64</b>	<b>73.82</b>	<b>95.50</b>	<b>75.98</b>
<b>May-2013</b>	<b>83.84</b>	<b>81.91</b>	<b>94.58</b>	<b>78.25</b>
<b>May-2014</b>	<b>81.63</b>	<b>79.71</b>	<b>88.33</b>	<b>78.46</b>

**Source:** DWP, GMS ESA data

**Notes:**

1. Table 1: Figures are rounded to the nearest ten therefore totals may not sum due to rounding.
2. Table 2: Average amounts are shown as pounds per week and rounded to the nearest penny therefore totals may not sum due to rounding.
3. Employment and Support Allowance replaced Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance for new claimants in October 2008.
4. Data is given as a point in time snapshot as at May each year.
5. Please note that the figures supplied are derived from unpublished information and have not been quality assured to National Statistics or Official Statistics publication standard. They should therefore be treated with caution.