

# **Freedom of Information request 2013-2673**

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## **Information request**

Please provide information on the number of current Disability Living Allowance (DLA) claimants who, if they were not receipt of DLA, receive sufficient other benefits to be affected by the overall Benefit Cap.

## **DWP response**

Disability Living Allowance claimants and dependents in the same household, are exempt from the benefit cap. From the scans available in May 2013, 47,000 households would potentially be brought into scope of the benefit cap if this exemption did not apply and by virtue of other benefits being claimed.

All households which include somebody who is receiving Disability Living Allowance (DLA) are exempt from the benefit cap. This is because DLA is awarded in recognition of the additional financial needs the recipient's disability can bring.

For the purposes of the benefit cap, a household or family unit refers to the benefit claimant, their partner (if they have one) and any child or qualifying young person for whom that adult or couple are treated as responsible when working out their Housing Benefit. It is possible, therefore, that in a household comprising two parents on benefit plus an adult child in receipt of DLA, there may be more than one household unit for the purpose of assessing whether the cap will apply - and that the unit comprising of parents receiving working age benefits would be capped.