

# **Freedom of Information request 2013-4234**

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## **Information request**

**I would appreciate if you could provide me with information on the outcomes of appeals made against refusal of ESA.**

**Specifically I would like to know what percentages of appeals are upheld and refused and if this information could be broken down into regions in Scotland.**

**I am particularly interested in the results for Glasgow, but would be interested to see how this compares with the rest of Scotland and the UK.**

**If say the last three years were available could this be provided?**

## **DWP response**

In response to your questions; the attached document (FOI 2013-4234 WDTK Response.xls) provides the latest available data for completed appeal outcomes against a Fit for Work (FFW) decision at the initial Work Capability Assessment (WCA) on Employment Support Allowance (ESA) new claims in Great Britain, Scotland and all Scottish Local Authorities, by calendar year.

Please note that the department does not hold this information for Northern Ireland. The responsibility for statistics in Northern Ireland lies with the department for social development (DSD). More information on how to submit a freedom of information request to the DSD can be found at:

<http://www.delni.gov.uk/index/freedom-of-information/requesting-information.htm>

To complete the response to your query, regarding information on appeals against ESA Incapacity Benefit Reassessment (IBR) FFW decisions, we can confirm that the Department does hold some information on appeals against IBR FFW decisions. However, this information is not centrally collated and we estimate that to retrieve and extract this information would exceed the appropriate limit of £600.

The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one

person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing this part of your request further.