

## Department for Work and Pensions

### **SOCIAL FUND COLD WEATHER PAYMENTS FOR GREAT BRITAIN FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2013 TO 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2014**

- Cold Weather Payments provide help to people in meeting their additional heating costs during periods of extreme cold.
- Payments are made to those most vulnerable to the cold, i.e. older people in receipt of Pension Credit, disabled adults and children, and families with children under 5 who are in receipt of an income related benefit.
- Payment is made automatically when the average temperature at the weather station linked to an eligible customer's postcode has been recorded as, or is forecast to be, 0 degrees Celsius or below over seven consecutive days. There are 92 weather stations used in the Cold Weather Payment scheme for 2013/14.
- The rate of payment is £25 for each seven day period of very cold weather.
- There were no triggers at weather stations between 15<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> March 2014.
- 1 trigger has been recorded so far in the 2013/14 season, and an estimated 1,100 payments have been authorised to date.

<b>Total estimated number of payments authorised in the 2013/14 season to date</b>	<b>1,100</b>
<b>Total estimated expenditure authorised in the 2013/14 season to date</b>	<b>£27,500</b>
<b>Estimated Percentage of those eligible who will benefit</b>	<b>0.03%</b>
<b>Actual number of weather stations triggered (out of 92 used in the scheme)</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>The Percentage of those eligible who have received 2 or more payments</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>The Percentage of those eligible who have received 1 payment</b>	<b>0.03%</b>
<b>Total triggers in 2013/14</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total estimated number of payments authorised in 2013/14 to those who are in receipt of Pension Credit</b>	<b>800</b>
<b>Total estimated expenditure to those who are in receipt of Pension Credit</b>	<b>£20,000</b>
<b>The Percentage of those who have received at least one payment who are in receipt of Pension Credit</b>	<b>73%</b>

**Note:** The data above is based on the estimated number of benefit units linked to each weather station which are eligible for Cold Weather Payments. The information

provided is Management Information. Our preference is to provide Official/National Statistics but in this case we only have Management Information available. It is not quality assured to the same extent as Official/National Statistics and there are some issues with the data, for example, figures given are estimates not actuals and may be revised later.

**Analysis of triggers by weather station so far this season:**

<b>Weather station</b>	<b>Number of triggers</b>
<b>Braemar</b>	<b>1</b>