

Freedom of Information request 2014-1981

Date received: 12 May 2014

Date of response: 13 June 2014

Information request

Please disclose the number of people in Reading who have had their Independent Living Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) stopped because of a work capability assessment between January 1 to December 31 each year since 2010.

DWP response

In response to your question regarding Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), please see the table below which shows the number of people in Reading who have a Fit for Work decision as a result of a Work Capability Assessment (WCA) for new and repeat claims to ESA and those going through Incapacity Benefits Reassessment (IBR).

Number of New Claims for ESA – Initial and Repeat WCAs and Incapacity Benefits Reassessments with an outcome of Fit for Work, Reading: January 2010 - June 2013

Year	Initial assessment	Repeat Assessments	Incapacity Benefits Reassessments
2010	500	100	-
2011	400	100	200
2012	200	-	200
2013	-	-	-

Source: Data in the above table is derived from administrative data held by the DWP and assessment data provided by Atos Healthcare.

Notes:

1. Data is rounded to nearest 100. "-" denotes nil or negligible.
2. Figures for 2013 only include data up to 30 June 2013 which is the latest data available.
3. ESA new claims initial and repeat assessments are tabled by year of claim start date, Incapacity Benefits Reassessments are tabled by year of referral.
4. The reassessment of existing incapacity benefits claimants started in October 2010 with a trial in the Burnley and Aberdeen areas.

Previously published information on the reassessment trials is available on the DWP web-site at the following link:

http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/adhoc_analysis/2011/wca_ib_reassessment_interim.pdf

In response to your questions regarding Independent Living Fund (ILF) and Personal Independence Payment (PIP), no one has had ILF funding or a PIP claim stopped as a result of a work capability assessment. This is because being deemed able or not able to work is not relevant to being eligible to continue to receive an ILF award or claim PIP.

You may be interested to know that the Department has published the first set of experimental official statistics on PIP for Great Britain on 5 June 2014, which can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/personal-independence-payment-statistics>