Department for Work and Pensions

SOCIAL FUND COLD WEATHER PAYMENTS FOR GREAT BRITAIN FROM 1ST NOVEMBER 2011 TO THE WEEK ENDING 3RD FEBUARY 2012

- 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 2010-11.

- The rate of payment is £25 for each seven day period of very cold weather.

Total estimated number of payments authorised to date	**1,173,500**
Total estimated expenditure authorised to date	**£29,670,000**
Estimated Percentage of those eligible who will benefit	**27.7%**
Actual number of weather stations triggered (out of 92 used in the scheme)	**33**
The Percentage of those eligible who have received 2 or more payments	**0.3%**
The Percentage of those eligible who have received 1 payment	**27.4%**
Total triggers to date	**40**

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:

Weather station	Number of triggers
Aboyne	2
Andrewsfield	1
Aviemore	3
Bedford	1
Bingley	1
Boscombe Down	1
Braemar	3
Brize Norton	1
Charlwood	1
Coleshill	1
Eskdalemuir	1
Fylingdales	1
Hereford-Credenhill	1
High Wycombe	1
Keele	1
Lake Vyrnwy	1
Leek	1
Liscombe	1
Little Rissington	1
Loch Glascarnoch	3
Lyneham	1
Redesdale	1
Rothamsted	1
Salsburgh	1
Sennybridge	1
Shap	1
Shawbury	1
South Farnborough	1
Threave	1

Tredegar	**1**
Tulloch Bridge	**1**
Wattisham	**1**
Wittering	**1**