

## **PIP administrative exercise: Progress on cases cleared**

Published on 20 December 2018

### **Policy background and introduction**

1. Personal Independence Payment (PIP) was introduced in April 2013. PIP replaces Disability Living Allowance (DLA) for claimants of working age. PIP is a payment that is intended to be broadly proportionate to the overall need of a claimant.
2. Two upper tribunal judgments mean that there has been a change to the way PIP is assessed.
3. From 28 November 2016 there was a change to the way DWP considers how overwhelming psychological distress affects a claimant's ability to plan and follow a journey.
4. From 9 March 2017 there was a change to the way DWP considers if claimants can complete a PIP activity safely and if supervision is required, by considering both the likelihood of harm occurring, and the severity and nature of the harm that might occur.
5. The Department is carrying out an administrative exercise looking at current PIP claims to check if this change means that claimants are eligible for more support under PIP. The Department is also looking at claims decided on or after the upper tribunal judgment dates where PIP was not awarded.
6. This exercise commenced in June 2018.

### **Purpose of publication**

7. This publication presents Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) management information on progress on checking potentially affected cases as at 23 November 2018. It includes:
  - The number of cases completed to date
  - Number of payments made to qualifying claimants
  - The total amount of payments made
  - The average payment made

### **Progress on cases cleared**

8. The Department started the checking of cases in June 2018.
9. The Department has prioritised checking the claims of individuals whom we know from our systems to be terminally ill. Other cases will be reviewed in

chronological order, starting with the earliest cases first ensuring that those who have been waiting the longest benefit at an early stage. We also have a dedicated resource to review cases where the claimant is now deceased to ensure that their next of kin receive payments as quickly as possible.

10. DWP Management Information at 23 November 2018 shows:

- Around 140,000 cases have been reviewed and cleared
- Around 1,000 payments have been made to qualifying claimants
- The total amount of additional payments the department has paid out to qualifying claimants is around £5 million;
- The average additional payment is around £4,500

**Notes:**

1. Data is reported without detailed verification.
2. The figures date from 23 November 2018. They are changing rapidly as we continue to check potentially affected cases.
3. The number of cases completed is rounded to the nearest 1,000; the total amount paid is rounded to the nearest £1million and the average payment is rounded to the nearest £500.

**Source:** DWP management information from the PIP administrative exercise at 23 November 2018

## Statement of Compliance with the Code of Practice for Statistics

The Code of Practice for Statistics (the Code) is built around three main concepts, or pillars: Trustworthiness, Quality and Value. The following explains how we have applied the pillars of the Code in a proportionate way.

- **Trustworthiness** – is about having confidence in the people and organisations that publish statistics

Progress on the PIP administration exercise is based on DWP Management Information, supplied via a data capture tool built to allow consistent and efficient recording of case review progress in the PIP administration exercise.

- **Quality** – is about using data and methods that produce assured statistics

The data presented on progress is from the data capture tool developed to accurately record progress and levels of arrears payments. Drop down menus and validation checks assist in reliable data recording. Data recording checks are carried out by operational staff. DWP analysts have challenged some figures to ensure accurate representations of the activity undertaken and checked some figures against the PIP administrative computer system.

As figures are derived from manually collated administrative data numbers are provided as management information and not official statistics.

- **Value** – is about publishing statistics that support society's needs for information.

This release provides a progress update on the PIP administrative exercise, together with context for those figures.

In addition, it aims to reduce the administrative burden of answering Parliamentary Questions, Freedom of Information requests and ad hoc queries to ensure timely responses to public queries.

To support financial planning and management of Departmental business, figures have been seen in advance by Ministers and officials, in line with the Code, where pre-release access does not apply for an ad hoc analysis release.

The Department intends to release future updates on progress on checking cases at 6-monthly intervals.

## **Where to find out more**

- [Changes to PIP law from 28 November 2016](#)
- [Changes to PIP law from 9 March 2017](#)
- Written Statements were tabled on [19 January 2018](#) and [25 June 2018](#)
- [DWP Benefit expenditure tables](#)

## **Contact information**

The Department will be contacting all those identified as potentially impacted.

For press enquiries, contact DWP Press Office on: 0203 267 5144