



Department
for Work &
Pensions

The Timms Review of PIP benefit: Interim report

This report tells you what we have
done so far

June 2026



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About this report



This is an Easy Read of a bigger report called the **Timms Review Interim Report**.



It tells you about the main things in the bigger report.



The Timms Review is about the **Personal Independence Payment** benefit.

It is called **PIP** for short.



This report is an **interim report**. It says what work we have been doing on the Timms Review so far. And what we still need to do.



This report does not tell you about our **recommendations**.



Our **recommendations** will be our ideas about things we think the Government should do to make PIP better.



In autumn 2026, we will write another report called our **final report**.



It will say what we found out and what we think needs to happen next.



We will put our recommendations in our final report.

About PIP



PIP is a **health and disability benefit**.



Health and disability benefits are extra money some people can get from the Government.



The money is to help pay for extra things you need to help you because of a disability or **health condition**.



A **health condition** is a problem that affects your body.

Things like having a bad back, pain, or problems with your heart or breathing.



Or it could be to do with your **mental health**.

Mental health is things like your thoughts, feelings and how you cope in everyday life.



People use the money from PIP to help with everyday things like cooking.



Or they use it for help with travelling and getting around.



The **Department of Work and Pensions** is the part of the Government in charge of benefits. They are called the **DWP** for short.

About the Timms Review



The Government asked us to do a **review** about PIP.

A **review** means looking at something to find out more about it.

The review is called the **Timms Review**.



We are the **steering group**.

We are a group of people who are planning and leading the Timms Review.



Our group is led by 3 co-chairs.



Most of the people in our group are disabled or have a long term health condition.



They know a lot about health, disability and benefits.



It is really important to us to include disabled people and people with a health condition in the Review.



Co-production is a way of working together with people.



It means people who are affected by PIP will help to make decisions about it.

Working together with other people



We are finding out about what people think about PIP.

We are doing this in lots of ways:



- **A Call for Evidence.**
This is when we ask lots of people what they think.



- **Workshops.**
A **workshop** is when a group of people get together to talk and share ideas.



- Talking to **experts.**
An **expert** is someone who knows a lot about something.

Themes in the Review



Themes are things that stood out the most when we looked at PIP.

And when we look at what people told us.



There are 4 themes we agreed to look at in the Review.



We want to find out more about these themes.



We are collecting lots of **evidence** for each theme.

Evidence is information.



This part tells you what we have found out for each theme so far.

It tells you what people said in the Call for Evidence.

Theme 1: How PIP helps people



A lot of people said that PIP is really important for them.

It helps them to do things like:

- Travel.



- Work.



- Take part in their local area.





Half of the people who gave us evidence said PIP does not give them enough money to pay for everything they need.



Some people worry that if they cope too well their benefit will be taken away.



Some people think that too many people are asking for help from PIP.



They are worried the Government cannot afford to pay to help everyone.



A few people said PIP gives some people too much.

Things like **motability cars** that cost a lot of money.



A **motability car** is a car that some people can get.

It helps them to travel more easily.



Some people say they have had their benefit stopped.

This is because they are doing well in a job.



But they are only able to work because they get help from PIP.

Theme 2: Who can ask for PIP and is PIP given out fairly



A lot of people said there are problems with the **assessments** for PIP.



The **assessment** is a check to see if a person can do everyday things.



Things like cooking, washing and telling people what you want or how you feel.



Some groups of people said assessments do not work well for them.

This might be people who have more than 1 disability or health condition.



Or people who have conditions that change a lot.



They might be able to do things some days.

Things like getting dressed or chopping food.



But they cannot do it on other days.



Some disabilities and health conditions cannot be seen by other people.

Things like mental health problems or being **neurodivergent**.



We say it like this:

new row die ver jent



Neurodivergent means your brain works in a different way to most people.
Things like being autistic or dyslexic.



A lot of people feel that assessments do not find out about these things properly.



People said that the rules about who can get PIP are not used in the same way for everybody.



And people said **supporting evidence** is not always used properly.



Supporting evidence is extra information that can help someone ask for PIP.



It might be things like a letter from their doctor or test results.



Some people think the way asking for PIP works is very hard. People think this makes it unfair.



They think that people who understand how asking for PIP works are more likely to get it.



Going to a tribunal

If a person disagrees with their PIP decision, they might end up going to a **tribunal**.



This is when a **tribunal** looks at the PIP decision.

They decide if the decision is fair.



A **tribunal** is a group of people who are not part of the DWP.



Going to a tribunal can take months or years.



People said they find it hard to pay for things while they wait for the tribunal.



Some people give up because it is too stressful.

Theme 3: What asking for PIP is like



A lot of people said that asking for PIP is hard and takes a long time.

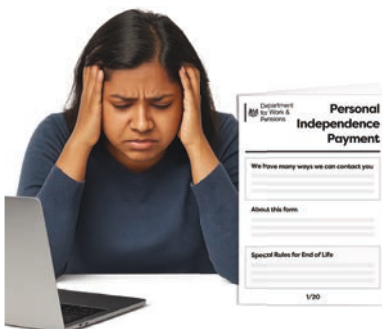


This stops some people from asking for it.



People told us that asking for PIP is tiring.

It can make people's health get worse.



People said that the forms to ask for PIP are very long and hard to understand.



This makes it hard for lots of groups of people. This might be:

- People who did not have chance to do well at school.



- People with learning disabilities.



- People whose health conditions or disabilities make them feel very tired.



- People who did not grow up speaking English.



People said the time from asking for PIP to getting a decision can take a long time.



This can make them feel stressed and worried.



People feel that assessments are upsetting and stressful.



Some of the words people used when talking about assessments were:



- **Confrontational.** This means it feels like a fight or an argument.



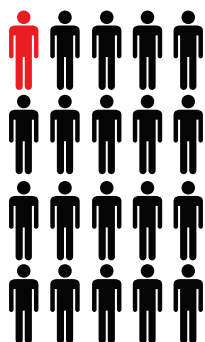
- **Humiliating.** This means it makes people feel embarrassed.



- **Soul destroying.** This means it makes people feel tired and worn out.



- **Degrading.** This means it made them feel ashamed or like they are not good enough.



Only **1 in 20** people said that their assessment went well.



Some people have a disability or health condition that cannot change.



They do not understand why they have to have a **review** for their PIP.



A PIP **review** is a check to make sure the person is still getting the right amount of support.



Having another assessment makes people feel stressed and worried.

Theme 4: Does PIP still work or does it need to change



More people are asking for help from PIP every year.



More people are finding out they have a disability or a health condition.



The disabilities and health conditions that people have are changing.



More people have illnesses that last a long time.



People told us that the way PIP works has not changed.

But the world has changed a lot.



Everyday things like food, travel and care cost more than they ever have before.

PIP helps people to pay for these things.



In the Covid-19 pandemic, a lot of people started to work from home. Disabled people said this was very helpful.



But people said jobs have also got harder.

People have to know a lot about using computers for their work.



And they need to be able to work by themselves more.



People said it is getting harder to find work.



Some people told us that they hear about people getting PIP when they do not need it.

This is called **benefit fraud**.

What happens next



We will collect more information from our workshops and talking to experts.



We will use the things people tell us in the Review to make our recommendations.



We will write a final report and send it to the Government.



This will happen in autumn 2026.

For more information



We have more easy read information about the Review and the steering group.



You can find it on our website:
www.gov.uk/government/collections/the-timms-review



If you want to find out more about how PIP works, you can look on this website:

www.gov.uk/pip



It is not in easy read.



If you want to look at all of the evidence we have collected so far, you can look on this website:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/timms-review-of-personal-independence-payment-interim-report/annex-b-dwp-evidence-pack



It is not in easy read.