

To: Mr J Slater

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

11 March 2013

Dear Mr Slater

Freedom of Information Act – Request for Information
Our Reference: FOI 0862

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request which we received on 21 February 2013.

You asked:

In its response (DWP Ref FOI 0391, 20th February 2013) to my question regarding 11% of people falling into the support group the DWP referred to data in Appendix 8 of the contract documentation. Unfortunately this data is itself an estimate and as such the answer, whilst technically accurate, was unhelpful.

Please provide the documentation that explains the basis for and derivation of the estimated data that the DWP referred to in its previous answer (and listed in Appendix 8 of the contract documentation) that was used to generate the estimate of 11% of people falling into the support group.

Please confirm if the estimate of 11% refers to the proportion of people being placed into the support group without having gone through a WCA or the total proportion of all claimants that are placed into the support group.

The data listed in appendix 8 of the contract documentation under 'ESA NEW & REPEAT CLAIMS' shows a year on year decrease in the estimated growth in new and repeat ESA claims. Please provide the documentation that explains and justifies the estimated year on year decrease in growth.

In response, I would refer you back to the reply provided in Ref FOI 0391, 20th February 2013 and provide clarification. The estimates provided in the ESA RFP September 2007 and Appendix 8-Volumes were based on the prevailing numbers of the Incapacity Benefit (IB) Personal Capability Assessment (PCA) report recommendations. Likewise, the estimates for new and repeat Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) claims were based on IB new and repeat claim volumes.

Following enquiries made to the Commercial team, to the ESA analysis team, and a search of our electronic records, I have established that, due to the age of the document referred, the specific information you requested is no longer held by the Department.

Yours sincerely

Business Management Team
Health & Disability Assessments (Operations)

dwp.medicalservicescorrespondence@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk or by writing to DWP, Central FoI Team, Caxton House, Tothill Street, London SW1H 9NA. Any review request should be submitted within two months of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF www.ico.gov.uk