

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

e-mail: [freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)

Our Ref: 2015-3625

14 October 2015

Dear G Ward,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 28 August 2015.

You asked:

**“I have seen the recent release by Department re ESA deaths who where found fit for work released on 27/8/2015.**

**DWP recently generated ASMRs (age standardised mortality rates) for many categories of claimant, but not for the category of most interest: those who have been taken off IB/SDA after being found fit for work. Many of these move to JSA or other benefits so can I please have those statistics of those who died within 14 days after transferring to JSA or other benefits from IB /ESA .”**

Age Standardisation is an internationally recognised indicator which allows comparisons to be made between populations with different characteristics, such as age and gender. This approach is consistent with other published statistics on mortality, in particular by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS).

In answer to your request as a whole, we can confirm that the Department does hold some information falling within the description specified in your request. However, we estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £600.

The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact us quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Fol Team

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### **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@dwpgsi.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dwpgsi.gov.uk) or by writing to DWP, Central Fol Team, Caxton House, Tothill Street, 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 <https://ico.org.uk/>