



Department for
Work and Pensions

Website: www.dwp.gov.uk

Yvonne Pears

WDTK

Your Reference:

Our Ref: Fol 3588,3589,3590,3604,3606

Date: 21 December 2011

Dear Ms Pears

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request, received on 28 November 2011 in which you asked:

In relation to your payments and procedural protocols and information sharing. The <Coventry City Council> place Records before the <Coventry Magistrate Courts> which accuse your records of being False. Can you answer the questions below in regard to HOW you are able to pay long term Disability Benefits to people AND also NOT pay benefits to people, where YOUR RECORDS do NOT COMPLY with those of the <Coventry City Council's>.

- 1) The <Coventry City Council> place Court Summonses against people on Disability Benefits and Other Benefits. Their records state that YOU are paying Monies to people whom according to their Records are NOT entitled. The <Coventry City Council's> records state that the people to whom YOU are paying benefits to, are Living at Different Address than what your Records state. Can you give answers to HOW THEIR Records state that people are;
A) Living at a Different Address to where YOU are paying Benefits to ?, AND
B) They are living with a Partner at a Different Address to where YOU are paying, Long Term Benefits to ?.
- 2) The <Coventry City Council> have People placed on their Finance Office Records, as, Unemployed, Living Alone, a Mental Health Patient and having a CARER, where YOUR RECORDS prove that YOU are NOT making any payments to them whatsoever and they are NOT in receipt of any other payments. In addition YOU have NOT taken any steps to see if they are entitled to any payments. WHY is this ?.
- 3) Under DWP is Autism/Aspergers classified as a Disability or Mental Health ?.

It is helpful for us to know of your concerns.

Coventry City Council's records do not specifically cover the conditions for Disability Living Allowance and Attendance Allowance. Checks are made on claims to benefit, to ensure authenticity.

We normally pay benefits direct to bank accounts, and not to home addresses. Customers are advised to report changes of address.

There is also an exchange of information between DWP offices. Whether or not the person lives with a partner, has no effect on entitlement to these benefits.

The Department encourages any member of the public who might be aware of an individual committing benefit fraud to contact the confidential National Benefit Fraud Hotline on 0800 854 440. The line is available seven days a week between 7am and 11pm. Alternatively, suspicions can also be reported online at <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/benefit-thieves>. If people prefer to make their report in writing they can write to The National Benefit Fraud Hotline, PO Box 224, Preston, PR1 1GP.

Eligibility cannot be established until entitlement is tested when a person claims disability living allowance (DLA) or attendance allowance (AA). Until that point there is no way of knowing who would or would not qualify for these benefits. The Department already goes to considerable lengths to publicise benefits. Information is available from all the Department's offices, from www.direct.gov.uk, from Citizen's Advice Bureau and other advice agencies, and leaflets are available in post offices and doctors' surgeries. In addition, information and advice about disability benefits is provided by the Benefit Enquiry Line. The Department is also increasingly working with partners such as Local Authority Social Services and Welfare Rights organisations to increase awareness of DLA and AA

Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a developmental disorder in which there are a wide range of effects. DWP recognises ASD as a potentially significantly disabling condition. However the assessment of individuals with ASD (as with all conditions) is not dependent on its classification but rather on the disabling effects of the condition

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

Yours sincerely

DWP Central Fol team
Pension, Disability and Carers Service

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 Fol Team, 5th

Floor The Adelphi, 1-11, John Adam Street, London WC2N 6HT. 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