

Dear Cynthia Brook,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 25 June 2019. You asked:

"In a GOV.UK press release of 29 May 2019 Press release entitled "Unnecessary disability reassessments for disabled pensioners to be phased out.

The first step in scrapping unnecessary reassessments for Personal Independence Payment (PIP) for pensioners starts on Friday (31 May).

Minister for Disabled People Justin Tomlinson said: We are determined to improve our support for disabled people, and stopping needless PIP reviews for pensioners is the right thing to do.

This step means new claimants to PIP who reach State Pension age before their review is due won't have one unless they tell us their needs have changed, and the next step is to bring this in for all pensioners.

Applying this change to new claimants is the first step and it will be extended to existing PIP claimants above State Pension age in the coming months."

Please provide any documentation or information that indicates when this extension to existing pensioner PIP claimants will take place."

DWP Response

I confirm that we hold the recorded information to respond to your request.

From 9 July 2019, existing Personal Independence Payment (PIP) claimants above State Pension age (SPa) will be moved onto on-going awards with a light touch review at 10 years.

There is a new award review letter in development for those claimants. Eligible claimants will receive this letter which will explain that their PIP award is now an ongoing award with a 10-year light touch review. These changes will ensure that new and existing claimants who are eligible to PIP and are of SPa do not have their benefits reviewed regularly.

By early July, there will be additional information relating to the new SPa change on Gov.uk sited within the PIP Toolkit: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-personal-independence-payment-pip-toolkit>

To note: The PIP Toolkit is a guide to help organisations and people in support roles to explain Personal Independence Payment (PIP) and changes to Disability Living Allowance (DLA) to claimants.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central FOI Team

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@dwg.gov.uk or by writing to DWP, Central FOI 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

Web: ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745