Interim results of Work Capability Assessments for IB reassessment trial areas

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DWP Department for Work and Pensions

Introduction

Between October 2010 and Spring 2014 customers who receive Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disablement Allowance and Income Support paid on the grounds of illness or disability will be assessed for Employment and Support Allowance.

This reassessment will use the Work Capability Assessment (WCA) and will focus on what an individual can do despite their health condition, rather than simply what they cannot. Employment and Support Allowance helps people with an illness or disability move into work if they are able.

The first stage of reassessment began in October 2010 with a trial involving 1,700 customers from the Burnley and Aberdeen Benefit Centres in the Highlands, Islands, Clyde Coast & Grampian and Cumbria & Lancashire Districts. This trial was designed to provide early indicators about customer and staff reactions to the reassessment process.

This document sets out interim results from the trial in Aberdeen and Burnley. Final results will be made available later.

The data source is from clerically derived internal management information.

Results

As of the 8th February 1,347 decisions on whether a customer's claim qualifies for conversion to Employment and Support Allowance had been made. Of these:

- 399 individuals were disallowed Employment and Support Allowance (29.6%)
- 422 individuals were allowed Employment and Support Allowance and placed in the support group (31.3%)
- 526 individuals were allowed Employment and Support Allowance and placed in the Work Related Activity Group (39%)

The figures presented above are interim as not all 1,700 trial customers have been through the reassessment process. The proportion of customers in each group will therefore be subject to change as the trial progresses.

Further information on Employment and Support Allowance can be found at: http://www.dwp.gov.uk/employment-and-support/

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