

# New Enterprise Allowance Starts By Local Authority

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**DWP** Department for  
Work and Pensions

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# Introduction

This publication presents New Enterprise Allowance mentor starts and allowance starts by local authority. The data are based on official statistics released on August 15<sup>th</sup> 2012, for the period April 2011 up to and including May 2012:

<[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/pwp/pwp\\_qbw\\_aug12.pdf](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/pwp/pwp_qbw_aug12.pdf)>

# Background

The New Enterprise Allowance (NEA), officially launched on 1st April 2011, aims to help unemployed people who want to start their own business. NEA is available to Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) claimants aged 18 and over, from day one of their claim for both the mentoring and financial support element<sup>1</sup>, up until they are required to join the Work Programme. Participants receive access to a volunteer business mentor who will provide them with support as they develop their business plan and through the first six-months of trading. Once a claimant has demonstrated they have a viable business proposition with the potential for growth in the future, they are able to access financial support.

A start on the New Enterprise Allowance scheme is defined as the date the claimant first met with their business mentor. This is input by an adviser to the Jobcentre Plus' Labour Market System.

A New Enterprise Allowance weekly allowance start is recorded when the claimant begins claiming the weekly allowance. The weekly allowance is payable when the participant closes their claim to Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) and commences trading. The claim start date is input by the adviser into the Jobcentre Plus' Labour Market System.

The New Enterprise Allowance was introduced using a phased roll out across Great Britain: this commenced in January 2011 with a trailblazer and increased in stages until there was nationwide coverage in August 2011<sup>2</sup>.

# Results

The accompanying spreadsheet shows the number of NEA mentor starts and NEA weekly allowance starts by local authority.

**Notes:**

1. Prior to 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2012 JSA claimants had to have been claiming for 13 weeks in order to be eligible.
2. For more information on the phased rollout please see: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/docs/new-enterprise-allowance-national-rollout.pdf>

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**1<sup>st</sup> November 2012**