

# Freedom of Information request 2012-4582

Received 19<sup>th</sup> November 2012

Published 18<sup>th</sup> December 2012

## Information request

1. How many people claimed for a Vaccine Damage Payment between 2000 and 2010 inclusive?
2. How many of those claims were successful?
3. How much in total was paid out?
4. How many of those successful claims were the result of an injection containing the tetanus vaccine?
5. How many were the result of the MMR vaccine?
6. If you have a detailed breakdown of how many successful claims were related to each vaccine, can I see it (this would negate the need for answers to questions 4 and 5)?

## DWP response

The Vaccine Damage Payments Unit has received 1,483 claims between 1 January 2000 and 31 December 2010. Of these, 26 have resulted in an award. The total amount paid out for those awards is £2,600,000.

I am unable to supply the details you have requested at questions 4, 5 and 6. I should explain that a Vaccine Damage award is made if it is accepted that a person is severely disabled as a result of vaccination against any of the diseases listed in the Vaccine Damage Payments Act (the Act).

The claimant is advised to list all vaccinations that they have received on the claim form. Although they may cite a particular vaccination that they believe to have caused their disability, all vaccinations that have been administered that are included in the Act, are taken into account during the medical assessment of the claim.

This is because a number of vaccinations may be given in close proximity to each other, often on the same day, and it is not always possible to isolate a particular vaccination as being the cause of the claimed resulting disability. As it is therefore not possible for an award to be attributed to a particular vaccination, the Vaccine Damage Payments Unit does not collect or collate this information.