



Department  
for Work &  
Pensions

Personal Independence  
Payment 4  
Mail Handling Site B  
Wolverhampton  
WV99 1AA  
[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

Telephone: 0800 121 4433  
Textphone: 0800 121 4493

10 October 2019

## Personal Independence Payment

Changes in PIP law - We've looked again at your PIP award and it's not changed

Dear Mr [REDACTED]

There have been some changes in Personal Independence Payment (PIP) law which affect how the Department for Work and Pensions decides PIP claims.

We are looking again at PIP claims to find out which ones are affected.

This letter explains if and how these changes affect you.

These changes are to do with:

- how we assess someone's ability to plan and follow a journey
- how we decide whether someone can carry out an activity safely or not, and whether they need supervision

There is more information about these changes towards the end of this letter in the 'My decision' section, and at

[www.gov.uk/dwp/pip-changes](http://www.gov.uk/dwp/pip-changes)

### Your PIP award

I've looked again at your PIP claim and decided **your award is not affected and is still correct.**

I can still award you the **standard** rate of PIP to help with your daily living needs from 25 September 2017 to 17 August 2021. This is currently £58.70 a week.

I still can't award you PIP for help with your mobility needs.

### Your payments

There are no changes to the amount of PIP you're getting.

### Making sure the PIP you get is right

This letter is for information only.

You do not need to contact us, unless you disagree with our decision.

We give you PIP for a set time but we know people's lives can change. When lives change it may become easier to do everyday things. Sometimes it can become harder for people with a health condition or disability to do everyday things.

You must contact us if there's a change in your daily living or mobility needs while you're getting PIP. You can find more information about other changes you must tell us about in the 'Please tell us about any changes' section later in this letter.

We will also contact you while you're getting PIP to see if your needs have changed and to look at the amount you get. This will be after 17 August 2020.

You still need to contact us if anything changes in the meantime so we can check you're getting the right amount.

### How I made my decision

I looked again at all of the information we had when we made our decisions.

This told me the type of help, and how much help you need.

I used this information to look at whether you can carry out 12 activities and the amount of help you need. A score is given for each of these.

There are 10 activities for the daily living part of PIP and 2 for the mobility part.

If your total score for the daily living activities is between 8 and 11 you'll be awarded the standard rate. If your score is 12 or more you'll be awarded the enhanced rate. This is the same for mobility activities.

#### Daily Living - for the 10 daily living activities you scored:

<b>Preparing food</b> (scored out of 8) You need an aid or appliance to be able to prepare or cook a simple meal.	2
<b>Eating and drinking</b> (scored out of 10) You can eat and drink unaided.	0
<b>Managing your treatments</b> (scored out of 8) You can either manage medication / therapy or monitor your health condition unaided, or you don't need to.	0
<b>Washing and bathing</b> (scored out of 8) You need an aid or appliance to wash or bathe.	2
<b>Managing your toilet needs</b> (scored out of 8) You need an aid or appliance to manage your toilet needs or incontinence.	2

<b>Dressing and undressing</b> (scored out of 8) You need to use an aid or appliance to dress and undress.	2
<b>Communicating</b> (scored out of 12) You can express and understand verbal information unaided.	0
<b>Reading</b> (scored out of 8) You can read and understand basic and complex written information either unaided or using glasses or contact lenses.	0
<b>Mixing with other people</b> (scored out of 8) You can engage with other people unaided.	0
<b>Making budgeting decisions</b> (scored out of 6) You can manage complex budgeting decisions unaided.	0

Your total score for the **daily living** part of PIP from 25 September 2017 to 17 August 2021 is **still 8** points.

This means you've been awarded the **standard** rate for help with your daily living needs.

#### **Mobility – for the 2 mobility activities you scored:**

<b>Planning and following a journey</b> (scored out of 12) You can plan and follow a route of a journey unaided.	0
<b>Moving Around</b> (scored out of 12) You can stand and then move more than 50 metres but no more than 200 metres either aided or unaided.	4

Your total score for the mobility part of PIP from 25 September 2017 is **still 4** points.

This means you've not been awarded PIP for help with your mobility needs.

#### **My decision**

I looked again at your PIP claim from 28 November 2016 because of changes in the law on how PIP claims are decided. The changes are:

MH v DWP tribunal judgment, this relates to how overwhelming psychological distress is considered when assessing the ability of someone to plan and follow a journey. This change applies from 28 November 2016. The threshold for Overwhelming Psychological Distress is a very high one. Although you have difficulty with anxiety, the evidence does not suggest that this results in you being unable to complete journeys on the majority of days without being overwhelmed. Your difficulties have already been considered in your award and the judgment does not impact on this.

RJ v DWP tribunal judgment, this relates to how we decide whether someone can carry out an activity safely. This change applies from 9 March 2017. During the period under consideration there is no evidence that there was a significant risk to safety whilst carrying out any daily living or mobility activities that has not already been considered.

For more information about these changes go to  
**[www.gov.uk/dwp/pip-changes](http://www.gov.uk/dwp/pip-changes)**

Yours sincerely

## If you disagree with a decision

### You can ask us to explain why

You, or someone who has the authority to act for you, can phone or write to us within one month of the date on this letter to ask us to explain our decision.

### You can ask us to reconsider a decision

Tell us if you think we have overlooked, or you have more, information that affects the decision. Do this within one month of the date on this letter.

When we've looked at what you have told us, we will send you a letter to tell you what we have decided and why. We call this letter a 'Mandatory Reconsideration Notice'.

### When you have done this you can appeal

If you disagree with the Mandatory Reconsideration Notice, you can appeal to a tribunal.

You must wait for the Mandatory Reconsideration Notice before you start an appeal.

## Other benefits, support and advice

There are other benefits and help you may be able to get.

For example:

- Access to Work
- Employment and Support Allowance
- Council Tax or Housing Benefit help
- help with health costs (please go to your local NHS website for more details)
- a Motability vehicle (this is dependent on getting the enhanced amount of mobility)
- Disabled Persons Railcard and Blue Badge

If someone is caring for you they may be able to get Carer's Allowance or Carer's Credit. To make an online claim for Carer's Allowance go to [www.gov.uk/carers-allowance](http://www.gov.uk/carers-allowance) or for more information about claiming Carer's Credit go to [www.gov.uk/carers-credit](http://www.gov.uk/carers-credit)

To find out what you may be able to claim, go to [www.gov.uk/benefits-calculators](http://www.gov.uk/benefits-calculators)

If you need help to talk through what is best for you then you could talk to your carer, your family and friends or your support worker. You could also contact a local support organisation who can provide independent help and support. You can find their details online, at your local library or in the telephone directory.

If you need help managing your money please contact the Money Advice Service as soon as you can. They offer free independent advice about how to make the best of your money, including budgeting, savings and dealing with debt. To find out more, go to [www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk](http://www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk)

## Please tell us about any changes

If your condition or circumstances change, please let us know.

Call us straightaway, using the phone number on the front page of this letter. Someone else can call for you, but you will need to be with them when they call.

A textphone is also available for people who do not speak or hear clearly. You can also write to the address shown on the front page of this letter.

### If your condition changes

Please tell us straightaway if:

- you need more or less help with daily living or mobility
- your health professional tells you your condition will last for a longer or shorter time than you have already told us

These changes can affect the amount of PIP you get. Depending on the change your PIP could go up, go down, stay the same or stop.

## Other changes you must tell us about

Please tell us straightaway if you:

- go into a hospital, hospice or a care home
- go into a residential school or college
- go into foster care, or the care of a local authority or health and social care trust
- leave or intend to leave the country for more than 4 weeks, even if it is for a holiday
- go into prison or are held in legal custody

If we overpay you because you have not told us about a change, you may have to pay the money back.

If you do not tell us about changes straightaway, you risk being prosecuted or having to face a financial penalty.

Please also tell us straightaway if you:

- change your name, address or landline or mobile phone number
- change the account that we pay your benefit into
- have someone acting for you and that person changes

## Equality and Diversity

We are committed to treating people fairly, regardless of their disability, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, transgender status, marital or civil partnership status, age, religion or beliefs. Please contact us if you have any concerns.

## Getting help and support

If you need us to, we can provide the information in this letter in a different format which you find easier to access. For example, you can ask us to provide information in braille, large print, audio or email. Please contact us to discuss your requirements regarding format.

## Call charges

Calls to 0800 numbers are free from mobiles and landlines.