

Big benefit changes and news

Personal Independence Payment special

This benefit bulletin has been produced by the Active Inclusion Newcastle Unit, Newcastle City Council

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Personal Independence Payment

As you will be aware, new claims for Disability Living Allowance for people aged 16 and above are treated as claims for Personal Independence Payment. This rule came in April 2013.

The roll out of PIP continues with existing Disability Living Allowance claimants being affected, as follows:

From 26 January 2015

The following existing Disability Living Allowance (DLA) claimants in Newcastle will be 'invited' to claim Personal Independence Payment (PIP) if -

- the DWP receives information about a change in their care or mobility needs;
- their fixed term award of DLA is due to expire on or after 15 June 2015 (reassessment activity starts approximately 20 weeks before existing DLA awards end);
- the claimant turns 16;
- the DLA claimant aged between 16 – 64 wants to voluntarily claim PIP.

From October 2015

Existing claimants, aged 16 and above, who are still getting DLA, will at some stage be invited to claim PIP, including those who are aged 65 or older.

Remember: the claimant will have to claim PIP. They will not be automatically reassessed.

For more information, see the updated [Timetable for PIP replacing DLA](#) from gov.uk.

For more details, see our website page: [Changes to benefits for people with care or mobility needs \(disabilities\) and carers](#)

Further information and help

Can be found on [Newcastle City Council's welfare rights web pages](#) including the benefits mentioned above, where to get advice in Newcastle, benefits self-help factsheets and changes to the benefits system.

Also see the DWP's [Touchbase](#) for news.

This benefit bulletin was written in **April 2015** by the Active Inclusion Newcastle Unit, Newcastle City Council. It is provided bi-monthly and at times of important benefit changes and news. It complements the weekly Active Inclusion Newcastle e-bulletin which provides a brief update on financial inclusion and homelessness prevention issues. For details email: activeinclusion@newcastle.gov.uk