

Harmonised Concepts and Questions for Social Data Sources

GSS Harmonised Principle

Benefits and Tax Credits

About This Document and Update History

GSS Harmonised Principles

About this document

This document forms part of a series of GSS Harmonised Principles, designed to provide approved harmonised questions, definitions and outputs for a variety of social and business related topics. The use of harmonised questions, definitions and outputs will provide greater consistency for survey producers and comparability when using data.

For more information, please see the Introductory Document, available on the GSS website:

<https://gss.civilservice.gov.uk/statistics/methodology-2/harmonisation/>

This is Version 5.3 published in March 2018

This document has been updated to Version 5.3 to reflect the change to the Harmonisation Team email address. There has been no change to the harmonised questions.

Previous versions:

Version 5.2. published in January 2018

This document has been updated to version 5.2 to reflect changes to the name and scope of benefits for Bereavement Allowance (formally Widows Pension), Widowed Parents Allowance (formally Widowed Mothers Allowance) and Bereavement Support Allowance/Payment (formally Bereavement Allowance)

Version 5.1 published in November 2017

This document has been updated to Version 5.1 to reflect the change away from 'Primary Principles' and 'Secondary Principles' to 'GSS Harmonised Principles'. There has been no change to the harmonised questions.

Version 5.0. published in June 2016

This document has been updated to reflect major changes to the welfare system, the most significant of which were the introduction of Universal Credit and Personal Independence Payment, and changes to Council Tax Benefit and Housing Benefit. A number of benefits have also been discontinued.

The document has been designed for those surveys interested in collecting information on benefits and tax credits receipt. Following the changes to the welfare system these questions can no longer be assumed to provide indications as to why a claimant is in receipt of benefit.

Version 4.1. published in October 2010.

This document has been updated to version 4.1 to reflect changes in the levels of benefits.

Version 4.0. published in December 2008.

This document has been updated as a result of re-formatting the document so that 'inputs' appear before 'outputs' for each Harmonised standard.

Version 3.0. published in April 2008.

This document includes changes to the amount payable for benefits, changes to information about the 'Job Grant' and includes the introduction of Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). Contact details for the Harmonisation Team have also been updated.

Version 2.0, published in March 2005.

This version includes recent changes to output categories to remove redundant benefits and to capture the recent changes in the benefit system; changes to guidance on Disability Living Allowance (DLA) mobility; and changes to details of questions to update benefit awards in line with the 2005-06 prices, and to capture the recent changes to benefits.

Version 1.0, was published in June 2004.

Version 1.0 was part of a series that replaced the Harmonised Concepts and Questions document. We had worked to make our guidance easier to find and clearer to use. Other than the formatting and layout changes, there were no new changes to questions or outputs in this version.

Please note that version control is new to this edition. Please ensure that you always use up-to-date versions of questions and outputs by checking our website for new editions – the version number will be incremented when changes are made.

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Introduction

GSS Harmonised Principle

Note: For more detailed questions on benefits and tax credits than the harmonised set, please refer to the lead survey, the Family Resources Survey (FRS). If that detail is important to the survey's purposes (including very detailed comparison with the FRS) then the FRS questions should be used.

This document has been designed for those surveys interested in collecting information on benefits and tax credits receipt. Following the changes to the welfare system these questions can no longer be assumed to provide indications as to why a claimant is in receipt of benefit.

Contact us

For more information about Harmonisation or to join our mailing list, please visit our website at:

<https://gss.civilservice.gov.uk/statistics/methodology-2/harmonisation/>

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Benefit Receipt

Inputs

The questions on state benefits ask about benefits that are currently received.

Note: *This is a topic which is subject to frequent changes, so users are urged to check the latest position on the Harmonisation pages on the GSS website.*

This Harmonised Principle has been designed for those surveys interested in collecting information on benefits and tax credits receipt. Following the changes to the welfare system these questions can no longer be assumed to provide indications as to why a claimant is in receipt of benefit.

IF AGE >= 16

WORKING AGE BENEFITS (WAgeBen)

– Looking at this card, are you at present receiving any of these state benefits in your own right: that is, where you are the named recipient?

SHOW CARD

1. Universal Credit
2. Housing Benefit
3. Working Tax Credit (excluding any childcare element of Working Tax Credit)
4. Child Tax Credit (including any childcare element of Working Tax Credit)
5. Income Support
6. Jobseeker's Allowance
7. Employment and Support Allowance
8. Carer's Allowance
9. None of these
10. (spontaneous) One of these / more than one of these, but I don't know which

Information on the benefits in the show card above is available in Annex A.

DISABILITY BENEFITS (DisBen)

– Looking at this card, are you at present receiving any of these state benefits in your own right, or on behalf of another person?

SHOW CARD

1. Personal Independence Payment (including the car allowance known as Motability)
2. Disability Living Allowance (including the car allowance known as Motability)
3. Attendance Allowance
4. Severe Disablement Allowance
5. Incapacity Benefit
6. Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit
7. None of these
8. (spontaneous) One of these / more than one of these, but I don't know which

Information on the benefits in the show card above is available in Annex B.

PENSIONER BENEFITS (PenBen)

– Looking at this card, are you at present receiving any of these state benefits in your own right: that is, where you are the named recipient?

SHOW CARD

1. Pension Credit
2. State Retirement Pension
3. Bereavement Allowance, Widowed Parent's Allowance or Bereavement Support Payment
4. Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (formerly War Disablement Pension), including Guaranteed Income Payments
5. War Widow's / Widower's Pension (and any related allowances)
6. None of these
7. (spontaneous) One of these / more than one of these, but I don't know which

Information on the benefits in the show card above is available in Annex C.

Benefit Receipt

Inputs

CHILD BENEFITS (KidBen)

– **Looking at this card, are you at present receiving any of these state benefits in your own right: that is, where you are the named recipient?**

SHOW CARD

1. Child Benefit
2. Guardian's Allowance
3. Maternity Allowance
4. None of these
5. (spontaneous) One of these / more than one of these, but I don't know which

Information on the benefits in the show card above is available in Annex D.

SOCIAL FUND (SocFund) (This question is not relevant for Northern Ireland)

– **Looking at this card, in the last 12 months, have you received any of these state benefits in your own right: that is, where you are the named recipient?**

SHOW CARD

1. A grant from the Social Fund for funeral expenses
2. A grant from the Social Fund for maternity expenses/ Sure Start Maternity Grant
3. A budgeting loan or budgeting advance from DWP
4. A loan or grant from your local authority
5. None of these
6. (spontaneous) One of these / more than one of these, but I don't know which

Information on the benefits in the show card above is available in Annex E.

OTHER BENEFITS (OtherBen)

– **Looking at this card, in the last 6 months, are you at present receiving any of these state benefits in your own right: that is, where you are the named recipient?**

SHOW CARD

1. 'Extended Payment' of Housing Benefit / rent rebate (4 week payment only)
2. Bereavement Payment
3. Any National Insurance or State Benefit not mentioned earlier¹
4. None of these
5. (spontaneous) One of these / more than one of these, but I don't know which

Information on the benefits in the show card above is available in Annex F.

FUTURE BENEFITS (ClaiFut)

– **And may I just check, are you awaiting the outcome of a claim for any of the following benefits?**

SHOW CARD

1. Pension Credit
2. Universal Credit
3. Housing Benefit
4. Working Tax Credit
5. Child Tax Credit
6. Income Support
7. Jobseeker's Allowance
8. Employment and Support Allowance
9. None of these
10. (spontaneous) One of these / more than one of these, but I don't know which

¹ This option captures any benefits that do not appear on one of the show cards. Please see Annex F for further details.

Standard Follow-up Questions

Inputs

BENEFIT LETTER (BenLettr)

– Do you have a letter {or award notice} from the {DWP or Benefits Agency/Pensions part of the DWP/Disability and Carer’s Directorate (DCD) or DWP} that you could consult?

1. Yes
2. No

Ask if BenLettr = 2 (No)

BANK STATEMENT (BankStmt)

– ...or is there a bank statement you could consult?

1. Yes
2. No

BENEFIT AMOUNT (BenAmt)

– How much did you get last time for [benefit name]?

(If combined with another benefit and unable to give separate amount, enter ‘don’t know’ for both/ all such benefits).

BENEFIT PERIOD (BenPd)

– How long did this cover?

1. One week
2. Two weeks
3. Three weeks
4. Four weeks
5. Calendar month
7. Two calendar months
8. Eight times a year
9. Nine times a year
10. Ten times a year
13. Three months/13 weeks
26. Six months/26 weeks
52. One year/12 months/52 weeks
90. Less than one week
95. One off/lump sum
97. None of these (EXPLAIN IN A NOTE <Ctrl+M>)

Ask if BenAmt = DK (Don’t know)

DON’T KNOW BENEFIT AMOUNT (BenAmtDK)

Interviewer: Is this don’t know because it’s paid in combination with ANOTHER benefit, and you cannot establish a separate amount?

1. Yes INTERVIEWER: Leave your ‘amount’ answer as ‘Don’t Know’ and enter the combined benefit figure in a note, with explanations as needed
2. No

If ‘Yes’, the note should state the following:

- The names of the household member concerned;
- The names of the individual benefits covered by the payment;
- The total amount received;
- The period covered;
- Any other information which might be useful.

‘Don’t Know’ should also be entered at the BenAmt for the other benefits concerned with a note cross-referencing the others.

Standard Follow-up Questions

Inputs

LENGTH OF CLAIM (Weeks)

– For how long have you been on [benefit name]?

Interviewer: Please note that a number of changes in circumstances, not just a change of address could have resulted in a break of claim (e.g. a partnership forming/dissolving, change in number of dependents etc)...

1. Up to 2 years
2. 2 years but less than 3
3. 3 years but less than 4
4. 4 years but less than 5
5. 5 or more years

Ask if Weeks = 1 (Up to 2 years)

LENGTH OF CLAIM (Weeks2)

– How many weeks have you been on [benefit name]?

Enter number of weeks

Ask if BenAmt = DK (Don't know)

AMOUNT RECEIVED FOR ALL BENEFITS (TtBPrx)

– Thinking about all the benefits and tax credits you receive, approximately how much would you say you receive from these sources per week?

Interviewer: An approximate figure to the nearest pound is acceptable at this question.

Ask for all benefits except Universal Credit²

USUAL AMOUNT (Usual)

– Is that the amount you usually get?

1. Yes
2. No

Ask if Usual = 1 (Yes)

USUAL AMOUNT IF UNUSUAL (BUsAmt)

– How much do you usually get?

BENEFIT PERIOD (BUsPd)

– How long did this cover?

GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS (GOVPAY)

– Are DWP paying directly for any of the things shown on this card?

Interviewer: Code all that apply. These are paid for by deductions from Income Support/ Pension Credit/ Universal Credit/Jobseeker's Allowance.

1. Mortgage interest
2. Rent arrears
3. Fees for nursing home or residential care
4. Gas or electric bills
5. Service charges for heating or fuel
6. Water charges (including sewerage charges)
7. Council Tax arrears
8. Fines
9. Child maintenance payments
10. Personal and commercial loan repayments
12. Yes - but don't know which
13. No - none of these

² Universal Credit payments can fluctuate with wages therefore it is likely that respondents will not have a 'usual amount'. Therefore this question is not asked for receipt of this benefit.

Standard Follow-up Questions

Inputs

AMOUNT (GovAmt)

– **How much (in total) is the DWP paying for this/ these things?**

INCLUDED IN BENEFIT (GovBefore)

– **Just now, you said you got [amount] [benefit] last time. Was that before or after taking off what DWP pay for directly?**

1. BEFORE deducting what DWP pay for directly (i.e. respondent's gross entitlement)
2. AFTER deducting what DWP pay for directly (i.e. net amount received by respondent)

Non-standard Follow-up Questions

Inputs

Card: WAgeBen

Ask if WAgeBen = 2 (Housing Benefit)

PAYMENT OF HOUSING BENEFIT (HBRecp)

– Is the Housing Benefit or rent [allowance/rebate] paid directly to you or directly to your landlord?

1. Directly to recipient of Housing Benefit or Rent [allowance/rebate] (i.e. the respondent or an appointee)
2. Directly to the landlord / property agent

Ask if WAgeBen = 2 (Housing Benefit) and Weeks = 1 (Up to 2 years)

YEAR CLAIM BEGAN (HBYear)

– Can I just check, in which year did you begin your current housing benefit claim?

Enter year

Ask if WAgeBen = 2 (Housing Benefit) and Weeks = 1 (Up to 2 years)

MONTH CLAIM BEGAN (Mnth)

– And which month was that?

1. January
2. February
3. March
4. April
5. May
6. June
7. July
8. August
9. September
10. October
11. November
12. December

Ask if WAgeBen <> (does not equal) 1(Universal Credit) or 3 (Working Tax Credits) or 4 (Child Tax Credits)

EVER RECEIVED TAX CREDITS (TCEver)

– Have you received any tax credit payments since April 2003 (when Working Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit were introduced)?

Interviewer: *We are only interested in Working Tax Credits and Child Tax Credit at this question. Exclude Working Families' Tax Credit, Disabled Person's Tax Credit and Children's Tax Credit which were replaced from April 2003 by Working Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit.*

1. Working Tax Credit (excluding any childcare element of Working Tax Credit)
2. Child Tax Credit (including any childcare element of Working Tax Credit)
3. None of these

Ask if TCEver = 1 (Working Tax Credit) or 2 (Child Tax Credit)

TAX CREDIT THIS YEAR (TCThsYr)

– Have you received any tax credit payments since April [survey year]?

1. Working Tax Credit (excluding any childcare element of Working Tax Credit)
2. Child Tax Credit (including any childcare element of Working Tax Credit)
3. None of these

Ask if TCEver = 1 (Working Tax Credit) or 2 (Child Tax Credit)

Interviewer: *Respondent is not receiving tax credits at the moment but did last financial year or in a previous year*

TAX CREDIT REPAYMENT (TCRepay)

– Why are you not receiving any tax credit payments at the moment?

1. Repaying an overpayment from earlier this year
2. Repaying an overpayment from previous year
3. Not completed application forms / Renewal Forms

Non-standard Follow-up Questions

Inputs

4. Income too high
 5. Not eligible for another reason
 6. Other
- Code 1 will only appear if TCThsYr = 1 (Working Tax Credit) or 2 (Child Tax Credit)

Ask if WAgeBen = 3 (Working Tax Credits)

WTC WITH DISABILITY ELEMENT (WTCD)

– Does the payment of [amount given for Working Tax Credit] include a disability element?

1. Yes
2. No

Ask if WAgeBen = 3 (Working Tax Credits)

PAYMENT INCLUDE CCTC (CCTC)

– Does this payment include a childcare element to help pay for childcare expenses?

1. Yes
2. No

Ask if WAgeBen = 6 (Jobseeker's Allowance)

(JSAType)

– There are two types of Jobseeker's Allowance. Is your allowance:

1. 'Contributory' - that is based on your National Insurance Contributions
2. ...or is it 'income related' - which is based on an assessment of your income
3. ...or is it a combination of 'contributory' and 'income related'?

Ask if WAgeBen = 7 (Employment and Support Allowance)

(ESAType)

– There are two types of Employment and Support Allowance. Is your allowance:

1. 'Contributory' - that is based on your National Insurance Contributions
2. ...or is it 'income based' - which is based on an assessment of your income
3. ...or is it a combination of 'contributory' and 'income related'?

Ask if WAgeBen = 8 (Carer's Allowance)

CARER'S ALLOWANCE (CAPER)

– Who is the person you care for that qualifies you for the allowance?

- 1 - 14 [Names of household members]
21. Relative (outside of household)
22. Friend/Neighbour
23. Client of voluntary organisation
24. Other non-household member

Ask if WAgeBen = 1 (Universal Credit), 5 (Income Support), 6 (Jobseeker's Allowance), 7 (Employment and Support Allowance), or PenBen = 1 (Pension Credit)

SOCIAL FUND REPAYMENTS (SFRepay)

– Are you at present making any repayments on any loans from DWP or your local authority?³

1. Yes
2. No

Ask if SFRepay = 1 (Yes)

REPAY AMOUNT (RepayAmt)

– How much in total do you repay, per week?

³ With the current routing this will pick up payments from WAgeBen only. Please consider routing if you are interested in all loan repayments.

Non-standard Follow-up Questions

Inputs

INCLUDED IN BENEFIT (SFInc)

– **Just now, you said you got [amount] [benefit] last time. Was that before or after taking off these repayments?**

1. Before
2. After

Card: DisBen

Ask if DisBen = 1 (Personal Independence Payments)

TYPE OF PERSONAL INDEPENDENCE PAYMENT (PIPtype)

– **There are two types of Personal Independence Payments. Is your allowance:**

1. Daily Living component only, or
2. Mobility component only, or
3. Both - Daily Living and Mobility components?

Ask if PIPtype = 2 (Mobility) or 3 (Both)

(PIPMota)

– **Is your Personal Independence Payment the car allowance known as Motability?**

1. Yes
2. No
3. (spontaneous) Don't know

Ask if DisBen = 2 (Disability Living Allowance)

TYPE OF DISABILITY LIVING ALLOWANCE (DLAtype)

– **There are two types of Disability Living Allowance. Is your allowance:**

1. Care component only, or
2. Mobility component only, or
3. Both - Care and Mobility components?

Ask if DLAtype = 2 (Mobility) or 3 (Both)

(DLAMota)

– **Is your Disability Living Allowance a Motability payment?**

1. Yes
2. No
3. (spontaneous) Don't know

Ask if DLAtype = 1 (Care) or 3 (Both)

DISABILITY LIVING ALLOWANCE 1 (DC)

– **Is this care component of DLA paid as part of your [Retirement Pension / Widow's Pension / Bereavement Allowance / Widowed Mother's Allowance / Widowed Parents Allowance], or do you receive a separate payment?**

1. Paid as part of pension
2. Separate Payment

Ask if DLAtype = 2 (Mobility) or 3 (Both)

DISABILITY LIVING ALLOWANCE 2 (DM)

– **Is this mobility component of DLA paid as part of your [Retirement Pension / Widow's Pension / Bereavement Allowance / Widowed Mother's Allowance / Widowed Parents Allowance], or do you receive a separate payment?**

1. Paid as part of pension
2. Separate Payment

Non-standard Follow-up Questions

Inputs

Ask if DisBen = 3 (Attendance Allowance)

ATTENDANCE ALLOWANCE (AA)

– Is this Attendance Allowance paid as part of your [Retirement Pension / Widow's Pension / Bereavement Allowance / Widowed Mother's Allowance / Widowed Parents Allowance], or do you receive a separate payment?

1. Paid as part of pension
2. Separate Payment

Ask if DisBen = 1 (Personal Independence Payments) or DisBen = 2 (Disability Living Allowance) or 3 (Attendance Allowance)

WHO RECEIVES DLA / ATTENDANCE ALLOWANCE (WhoRec)

– Who (do you/will you) receive it for?

If current household member, enter the person number(s). Otherwise enter 97.

Ask if DisBen = 1 (Personal Independence Payments) or DisBen = 2 (Disability Living Allowance) or 3 (Attendance Allowance)

RECEIVING CARER'S ALLOWANCE (GetCA)

– Ask or code: Is there anyone getting Carer's Allowance for looking after you?

Interviewer: Include other household member or someone outside the household. The previous question will also appear later if a person is in receipt of attendance allowance.

Card: PenBen

Ask if PenBen = 1 (Pension Credit)

PENSION CREDIT ELEMENT RECEIVED (PComp)

– Interviewer: Ask respondent to consult award notice to see if guarantee credit and savings credit being received. Code all that apply

1. Guaranteed element received (see section titled 'His/Her Guarantee Credit')
2. Savings element received (see section titled 'His/Her Saving Credit')

Ask if PenBen <> (does not equal) 2 (State Retirement Pension) and respondent is over state pension age.

DEFERRED STATE PENSION (DefrPen)

Interviewer: The respondent is over state pension age and so could collect state pension BUT they have not reported having NI retirement pension (or Widow's pension/Bereavement allowance) or Old Person's pension. However, some people defer taking up their State Pension in order to build up extra State Pension which they will receive when they start claiming State Pension. This question is checking whether people have deferred taking up State Pension.

– Have you deferred taking up your State Pension?

1. Yes
2. No

Ask if DefrPen = 2 (No)

(DefrPEX)

Interviewer: It appears that the respondent is not claiming Retirement Pensions and has not deferred their State Pension. Please check the reason for this and explain in a note.

Non-standard Follow-up Questions

Inputs

Ask if PenBen = 3 (Widow's Pension, Bereavement Allowance, Payment Widowed Parent's Allowance (formerly Widowed Mother's Allowance))

TYPE OF WIDOW'S PENSION / ALLOWANCE (Wid)

– Interviewer: Ask or record which one was received?

1. Bereavement Allowance
2. Widowed Parent's Allowance
3. Bereavement Support Payment

Card: KidBen

Ask if KidBen <> 1 (Child Benefit) but respondent has dependent child

CHILD BENEFITS CHECK (CBChk)

– Can I just check, you didn't report receipt of Child Benefit - is this because...

1. You have chosen to stop receiving Child Benefit payments due to having a high income?
2. You have not applied for Child Benefit?
3. Your partner receives this benefit
4. Other? (INTERVIEWER: please explain circumstances in a note)

Ask if KidBen = 1 (Child Benefit)

CHILD BENEFITS TAX (CBTax)

Interviewer: Since January 2013 families where at least one parent earns £50,000 or more a year have had to pay a High Income Child Benefit charge on the Child Benefit they receive. This charge is paid through the tax system. Some families may have decided to stop receiving Child Benefit payments rather than pay the money back through tax.

– Can I check, do you pay a high income Child Benefit tax charge on the Child Benefit you receive?

1. Yes
2. No

Ask if CBTax = 1

CHILD BENEFITS PAYE (CBPAYE)

Interviewer: All those paying the charge will have a choice to pay the charge directly themselves, or, if they are in PAYE, pay the charge through their tax code, i.e. it is included in their regular tax payments.

– You said that <person> pays a high income Child Benefit tax charge, how are these payments made?

1. Self-assessment
2. PAYE
3. Both

Ask if KidBen = 1 (Child Benefit) but WAgeBen <> (does not equal) 1 (Universal Credit) or 4 (Child Tax Credits)

CHILD BENEFITS AND CHILD TAX CREDIT CHECKS (ChkCTC)

Interviewer: Although the respondent receives Child Benefit he/she hasn't reported receipt of Child Tax Credits. Are you certain that the respondent does not receive Child Tax Credits? This is a means tested benefit so it is plausible the respondent may not receive Child Tax Credits if their income is above a certain threshold.

– If necessary check with the respondent

1. Yes, I am certain (the respondent DOES NOT receive Child Tax Credits)
2. No, I am not certain (the respondent did not know which Tax Credits received)

Non-standard Follow-up Questions

Inputs

Card: SocFund

Ask if SocFund = 3 (A loan or grant from DWP)

SOCIAL FUND LOAN OR GRANT (SFTYPE)

– **Thinking about the money you received from Social Fund, was that a loan, or a grant (if both code 1 and 2)**

Ask for each type of loan:

(LoanNum)

– **How many loans have you had in the last 6 months?**

(LoanAmt)

– **How much did you borrow altogether?**

Card: OtherBen

Ask if OtherBen = 1 ('Extended Payment' of Housing Benefit / rent rebate)

EXTENDED BENEFIT AMOUNT (ExtBenAmt)

– **How much was the extended payment?**

Enter the lump sum payment covering 4 weeks

Ask if OthBen = 6 (Any National Insurance or State Benefit not mentioned earlier)

OTHER NAMED BENEFIT (OthName)

– **Interviewer: Enter the name of this 'other' NI or State Benefit**

Enter Response

Ask if OthBen = 6 (Any National Insurance or State Benefit not mentioned earlier)

OTHER BENEFITS AT PRESENT (OthPres)

– **Are you receiving [this benefit] at present?**

1. Yes
2. No

Ask if OthBen = 6 (Any National Insurance or State Benefit not mentioned earlier)

NUMBER OF WEEKS RECEIVED BENEFIT 1 (OthWeeks)

– **For how many weeks in the last 6 months have you received this benefit?**

Enter Amount.

Benefits

Outputs

Output Categories - Publication

Benefit Receipt:

Universal Credit	xxxx
Housing Benefit	xxxx
Working Tax Credit	xxxx
Child Tax Credit	xxxx
Income Support	xxxx
Jobseeker's Allowance	xxxx
Employment and Support Allowance	xxxx
Carer's Allowance	xxxx
Personal Independence Payment (care component)	xxxx
Personal Independence Payment (mobility component)	xxxx
Disability Living Allowance (care component)	xxxx
Disability Living Allowance (mobility component)	xxxx
Attendance Allowance	xxxx
Severe Disablement Allowance	xxxx
Incapacity Benefit	xxxx
Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit	xxxx
Pension Credit	xxxx
State Retirement Pension	xxxx
Widow's Pension, Bereavement Allowance, Widowed Parent's Allowance (formerly Widowed Mother's Allowance)	xxxx
Armed Forces Compensation Scheme	xxxx
Child Benefit	xxxx
All in receipt of income-related benefits*	xxxx
All in receipt of non-income-related benefits*	xxxx
All in receipt of benefits	xxxx
All in receipt of tax credits	xxxx
All not in receipt of state support	xxxx

Income-related benefits	Non-income-related benefits
Universal Credit	PIP (both Mobility and Daily Living components)
Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) (income-related element)	DLA (both Mobility and Care components) ESA (contributory based element)
Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) (income-based element)	JSA (contributory based element) Widow's / Bereavement Payment
Pension Credit	Retirement Pension
Housing Benefit	Widowed Mother's / Parent's Allowance
Rates Rebate	Armed Forces Compensation Scheme
Social Fund (All)	Incapacity Benefit
N. Ireland rate relief for full-time students, Trainees, under 18s and those leaving care	Severe Disablement Allowance
Child Maintenance Bonus	Attendance Allowance Carer's Allowance
Child Benefit	Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit Maternity Allowance

Benefits

Outputs

<i>Income-related benefits</i>	<i>Non-income-related benefits</i>
N. Ireland Other Rate Rebate	Winter Fuel Payments
Job Grant	Other State Benefits
Extended Payments (Housing Benefit)	Health in Pregnancy Grant
	N.Ireland Disability Rate Rebate
	N.Ireland Lone Pensions Rate Rebate

Annex A

WAgeBen Benefit Information

Universal Credit: (means tested)

Universal Credit (UC) will replace income-based JSA, income related ESA, Income Support, Child Tax Credits, Working Tax Credits, and Housing Benefit, mainly for those aged 18 to State Pension Age (SPA) from October 2013 (and some pilot areas from April 2013). Under Universal Credit, claimants will have to meet certain requirements that reflect the work-related activity they can be reasonably expected to undertake given their capabilities and circumstances.

Universal Credit will be made up of a standard allowance plus additional elements. There are up to six additional elements, which depend on a claimant's circumstances: child element(s); disabled and severely disabled child additions; a childcare element; a carer element; elements for individuals with a limited capability for work, and a higher rate for those with a limited capability for work-related activity; and a housing element (rent and support for mortgage interest).

The standard allowance and additional elements make up a notional maximum out-of-work award. Actual awards will be affected by income, capital and work. In-work claimants have an initial amount of earnings disregarded (their Work Allowance), with net earnings exceeding this amount reducing their UC award by 65p in every pound earned. Payments under Universal Credit will usually be made on a monthly basis.

Housing Benefit: (means tested)

Paid by the local authority to people who need help with rent. Council tenants on HB get a rent rebate which means that their rent due is reduced by the amount of rebate. They are however responsible for their own water charges so those on 100% rent rebate do pay a weekly or fortnightly amount to cover these and other charges, where other charges are involved. Private tenants and Housing Association/Registered Social Landlords' tenants usually receive HB (or rent allowance) personally. HB may be paid personally or directly to the landlord in a small number of cases. People on IS, income related ESA or income-based JSA usually get maximum HB. The recipient, or the recipient and their partner, must not have over £16,000 in savings. HB is not normally more than rent but may exceed rent as part of the Local Housing Allowance Project.

Working Tax Credit: (means tested)

A payment to top up the earnings of working people on low incomes, with or without children. Usually paid via PAYE and based on the number of hours worked and income (joint income for couples). There are extra credits for those recipients in working households where someone has a disability. WTC replaced Working Family Tax Credits and Disabled Person's Tax Credit in April 2003.

Child Tax Credit: (means tested)

A payment to support families with children. The credit is paid to the person responsible for caring for the children directly into a bank or building society. The CTC may also contain an additional allowance for child care expenses. Replaced Children's Tax Credit and Childcare Tax Credit.

Income Support: (means tested)

Made up of personal allowances for each member of the benefit unit, premiums for any special needs, and housing costs, principally for mortgage interest payments. Those on IS are likely to be getting HB (if in rented accommodation) and CTB (if liable). Often paid to top up other benefits, or earnings from p/t work. PC is the equivalent of IS for those over the female retirement age. A dependant addition may also be received if there is a child under the age of 16 years in the household and Child Tax Credit is not in payment. Families may be entitled to a family addition.

Jobseeker's Allowance:

Replaced Unemployment Benefit and IS for unemployed people in October 1996. The claimant must be out of work or working less than 16 hours a week, actively seeking work and have a Jobseeker's Agreement with the DWP. There are two types: contribution-based, dependent on the amount of NI contributions paid, and income-related, dependent on income and savings. There are fixed age-related allowances, plus for income-based JSA only, extra allowances and premiums. JSA is paid at a lower rate for those aged under 25 than those aged 25 and over.

Employment and Support Allowance (from October 2008):

ESA replaced IB and Illness-based IS for new claimants from October 2008. Being extended to existing claimants over time. All claimants receive a 'Main Phase' payment along with either a 'work related activity' or 'support'

Annex A

WAgeBen Benefit Information (cont)

component depending on how the claimant's condition affects their ability to work. Severe Disability/Enhanced Disability/Carer/Pensioner and Higher Pensioner premiums are potential additions available.

Carer's Allowance:

A weekly benefit for people earning £100 per week or less after tax who give regular and substantial care (for 35+ hrs per week) to a severely disabled person who gets either DLA or AA. Paid at two rates: the Allowance itself and the Adult Dependent addition.

Annex B

DisBen Benefit Information

Personal Independence Payment:

Personal Independence Payment (PIP) replaces Disability Living Allowance for eligible people aged 16 to 64 from 8 April 2013, initially for new claims in selected areas, followed by new claims from across the country from 10 June 2013. As for DLA, once a claim has been established there is no upper age limit. Existing DLA recipients who were aged 16 to 64 on 8 April 2013, or reach age 16 after that date, will begin to be invited to claim PIP from October 2013 onwards and their DLA will stop when a decision on their PIP claim has been made. There will be no automatic migration from DLA to PIP.

There are two components:

(i) **Daily Living Component** covering 10 activities including eating and drinking, washing and dressing, using the toilet, communicating and understanding, managing medication or therapy, engaging with people and making budgeting decisions [This link provides all the activities -

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2013/9780111532072/schedule/1>]. Paid at one of two rates: standard or enhanced

(ii) **Mobility Component** covering two activities: planning and following journeys and moving around. Paid at one of two rates: standard or enhanced.

Disability Living Allowance:

Persons under 65 can claim for DLA if they need help with personal care and/or with getting around. Once an initial claim is made there is no upper age limit. DLA can be paid even if no-one is giving the care needed. There are two components:

(i) **Care Component** which covers things like washing, dressing, using the toilet, cooking a main meal. Paid at one of three rates: Highest, Middle or Lowest.

(ii) **Mobility Component** for persons who can't walk or have difficulty in walking. Paid at Higher or Lower rates).

There will be no automatic migration to PIP (see below) but from October 2013 new claims will only be received for those aged below 16 and changes to existing claims will only be accepted for those aged below 16 or above 65.

Attendance Allowance:

Paid to disabled persons aged 65 or over living at home who need help with personal care because of their illness or disability. There are two rates; a lower rate for attendance during day OR night; and a higher rate for day AND night. Note that respondents can get AA even if no one is actually giving them the care they need.

Severe Disablement Allowance:

Paid from the 29th week of illness to persons of working age who do not qualify for Incapacity Benefit. Persons getting this can also claim Income Support. Be careful not to confuse this benefit with Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disability Premiums within income-related benefits. There is a basic rate and Age additions can be paid in conjunction with Severe Disablement Allowance at two rates: Higher and lower rate. Dependant additions may also be received for adult dependants and for child dependants. New claims to SDA ended April 2001.

Incapacity Benefit:

Paid to people who have been medically assessed as incapable of working, if they have paid enough National Insurance contributions. People ineligible for Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) may receive IB. If a person is/was receiving SSP, IB replaces it after 28 weeks. There are three basic rates depending on the period, age of the individual(s) and severity of incapacity. A number of supplements may also be received. From October 2008, ESA replaced new claims to IB.

Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit:

Provided for employees injured at work or suffering from an industrial disease. The amount depends on degree of disablement. Some recipients may also be entitled to Unemployability Supplement. Those whose disablement is assessed as 100% also get Constant Attendance Allowance at one of four rates, and may also be eligible for Exceptionally Severe Disablement Allowance. Also see Reduced Earnings Allowance. The reduced under 18 rate has been abolished from April 2013.

Annex C

PenBen Benefit Information

Pension credit: (means tested)

From October 2003 this replaced Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG). Comprises two elements: i) A Guarantee Credit which is the minimum a pensioner can be expected to live on. Additional amounts for owner occupiers, disability and caring responsibility. ii) The Savings Credit which aims to reward those who have made provision for their retirement over and above the State Pension.

State Retirement Pension:

Paid to women aged 61* or over and to men aged 65 or over. This is the normal State Pension and is the same for men and women who have paid their own NI contributions at the standard rate, and for widows/widowers on their late partner's NI contributions. Persons on this pension may also get PC, details will be shown on the notification form for respondents who receive payments directly into their bank or building society account. The majority of pensioners you interview will be getting this pension. From April 2005, State Retirement Pension can be deferred for as long as required.

When a person reaches 80 and does not get an NI Retirement Pension or whose NI pension is less than the Over 80 Pension, they are eligible for Over 80 Pension.

*The pension age for women is rising incrementally to eventually match the pension age of men.

Bereavement Allowance payable to those aged 45 to State Pension age whose husband, wife or civil partner died before 6th April 2017. Payments can be made from the date of death for up to 52 weeks the date of death. (Note: Bereavement Payment should not be included here; it is a lump sum payment and there is a code for it at the later question on lump sum state benefits.)

Widowed Parent's Allowance replaced Widowed Mother's Allowance in April 2001. Widowed Parent's Allowance extends the benefit to fathers as well as mothers.

Payments to widowed fathers will be retrospective in the sense that although payments will only start from April 2001, they will be paid to both existing and new widowed fathers with dependent children. As with the redundant Widowed Mother's Allowance, there will be both basic and Second State Pension (formerly SERPS) elements payable, and additions for each dependent child.

Bereavement Support Payment replaced Bereavement Allowance and Widowed Parent's Allowance for new claims from 6th April 2017. The claimant must be under State Pension age when widowed. Their partner must have paid NI for at least 25 weeks or died as a result of an accident at work or disease caused by their work to be considered eligible. Claimants with children under 20 years old in full-time education receive an initial payment of £3,500 and up to 18 monthly payments of £350. Claimants who don't have children under 20 years old in full-time education receive an initial payment of £2,500 and up to 18 monthly payments of £100.

Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (formerly War Disablement Pension)/ Guaranteed Income Payments:

Payable to members of the Regular & Reserve Forces for service injuries, ill-health and deaths.

War Widow's / Widower's Pension:

Payable to widow/ers and children of someone killed in the Armed Forces or who died as a result of injury sustained in the Armed Forces.

Annex D

KidBen Benefit Information

Child Benefit:

Paid for each child under 16 years of age, or aged 16-19 and still in full-time further (but not higher) education. Two rates apply: only/elder/eldest child, and lower rate for each subsequent child.

Guardian's Allowance:

Can be claimed for a child who is in effect an orphan and who lives with the claimant, or whom they help to maintain, whether or not they are the legal guardian.

Maternity Allowance:

For women who have paid enough Class 1 or 2 NI contributions but are not entitled to Statutory Maternity Pay because, for example, they are self-employed or recently changed jobs. Payment can be made for a period of 39 weeks beginning 11 weeks before the baby is due (later if still working).

Annex E

SocFund Benefit Information

Social Fund loans:

Repayable interest free loans are available: Budgeting Loans to those on Income Support, Income based JSA, income related ESA or Pension Credit to help spread budgeting costs for certain items available from DWP.

From 1 April 2013, Crisis Loans and Community Care Grants were abolished, and funding transferred to English local authorities and the Scottish and Welsh governments, to deliver new local welfare provision.

Funeral Payment: (means tested)

A grant from the Social Fund can be obtained if the respondent or partner gets IS, Income-based JSA, income related ESA, PC, Tax Credits, HB, or CTB and Universal Credit.

Sure Start Maternity Grants (formerly maternity expenses) (means tested):

A grant from the Social Fund for maternity expenses is available if the respondent or partner is getting either Income Support, Income-based JSA, Income-based ESA, PC or Tax Credits or Universal Credit. One-off payment. From 11th April 2011, Payable only for the first child unless multiple births after subsequent pregnancies.

Universal Credit:

People in receipt of Universal Credit will not receive a Budgeting Loan but can get a Budgeting Advance. They may still be repaying a previous Social Fund loan.

Annex F

OtherBen Benefit Information

Extended Payment of Housing Benefit or Council Tax Benefit

These benefits may be received for a further four weeks by people aged under 60 when they start working full-time following a period of at least six months being unemployed, on a Government Training Scheme, or on Income Support as a lone parent or carer. Also known as Housing Benefit Run On.

Bereavement Payment (formerly Widow's Payment)

Bereavement Payment is a one-off, tax-free, lump-sum payment of £2,000 paid if a spouse or civil partner died before 6 April 2017 and provided that the deceased had paid enough NI contributions or died because of an industrial accident or disease.

As the amount received is a fixed rate there is no follow up question asking the amount.

Those widowed after 6 April 2017 may be entitled to Bereavement Support Payment, this should be recorded at PenBen.

Any Other NI or State Benefits:

- Industrial Death Benefit Widows Pension:

Widows and widowers of those employees killed at work or by an industrial disease may be entitled to this pension if their spouse died before April 1988. Paid at two rates.

- Reduced earnings allowance

Paid to people who cannot return to their regular occupation or do work of the same standard due to disablement caused before October 1990 by industrial accident or disease. It should be included in the 'other state benefits' category.

Benefits information not collected in the FRS:

- Winter Fuel Payments (WFPs):

WFPs are made where there is at least one person at women's State Pension age person in the household to help with heating bills, regardless of whether in receipt of any other state benefits. WFP is not recorded on FRS as DWP impute this information. For more information on this imputation please contact the FRS team (team.frs@dwp.gsi.gov.uk).

- Child Bonus:

Due to year on year fluctuations this benefit is not collected within the FRS.

- Cold Weather Payments:

Due to year on year fluctuations this benefit is not collected within the FRS.

Annex G

Benefit Information for those Benefits Captured Elsewhere in the FRS Questionnaire

The FRS asks respondents about receipt of the following benefits however given the type of benefit they are asked at relevant points of the questionnaire. Therefore these benefits fall outside the scope of this interim standard. For more information on how these benefits are captured please contact the FRS team (team.frs@dpw.gsi.gov.uk).

Council Tax Reduction (means tested)

Council tax is based on the value of a dwelling and assumes two adults per household. The full bill consists of two equal elements: a property element and a personal element. Status discounts, which reduce or eliminate the personal element of the tax, are available to single persons and certain other households. Local Authorities and Devolved Administrations offer schemes reducing the council tax liability of some people, which may offer support to some on low incomes. A Disablement relief is available if there is a disabled person in the household.

Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

An allowance paid to children aged 16 to 18 years in low income families to stay on at school. There are two types of payments: Weekly Payments and Bonuses. Information on Weekly Payments are collected on the FRS, but information on Bonuses or on reimbursed travel expenses as part of the allowance are not. EMA has been abolished in England, but is still available elsewhere in the UK.

Statutory Maternity Pay (SMP)

Received by employees during maternity leave. It is paid by the employer. The respondent must have been in the same job for at least 26 weeks and earning enough to have to pay NI contributions. SMP can be paid for up to 39 weeks. The employer may also add 'made-up' pay. It should only be recorded in the last/usual pay. The first six weeks are paid at 90% of respondent's salary, and 33 weeks at the standard flat rate or 90% of average earnings if less than the standard flat rate.

Statutory Paternity Pay (SPP)

Received by employees during paternity leave. It can be paid for up to two weeks. The weekly amount is a standard flat rate or 90% of average earnings if less than the standard flat rate.

Statutory Adoption Pay (SAP)

Received by employees for up to 26 weeks at a standard flat rate or 90% of average earnings if less than the standard flat rate.

Statutory Sick Pay (SSP)

Paid by employers to employees who earn enough to have to pay NI contributions. It is paid after four consecutive sick days for a maximum of 28 weeks in any spell or linked spells of sickness. (After 28 weeks, or if the employer's obligation to pay SSP ends before then, the respondent will usually transfer on to Incapacity Benefit). The employer may also add 'made-up' pay. It should only be recorded in the last/usual pay.