



Department
for Work &
Pensions



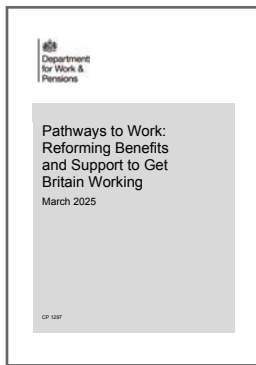
Pathways to work: Reforming Benefits and Support to Get Britain Working

Changing health and disability
benefits to help get more people
into work

Tell us what you think



About this easy read



This is an easy read version of a bigger booklet called **Pathways to Work: Reforming Benefits and Support to Get Britain Working**.



This easy read booklet tells you about the main things in the bigger one.



The bigger booklet is on our website:
www.gov.uk/government/consultations/pathways-to-work-reforming-benefits-and-support-to-get-britain-working-green-paper



This easy read is still quite long. You do not have to read it all at once if you don't want to.



You might want to take a break or just read the bits you are most interested in.

What is in this booklet



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About this booklet



Health and disability benefits are extra money people can get. The money comes from the government.



It helps to pay for things you might need or extra costs you might have because of your disability or **health condition**.



A **health condition** is a problem that affects your body.

Things like having a bad back, pain, problems with your heart or your breathing.



Or it could be to do with your **mental health**.

Mental health is things like your thoughts, feelings and how you cope in everyday life.



We are working on lots of things to support people to work.



This booklet is about changes we want to make to health and disability benefits.



This booklet tells you:

- How things are now and why we need to make changes.



- Our plans about changes we are going to make.



- Questions for you to answer.

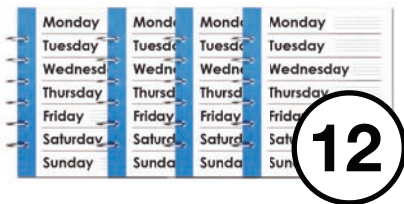


We will listen to what everyone tells us. We will use this to make the right plans for supporting people into work.

When the changes will happen



It is important to know that the changes to benefits are not going to happen straight away.



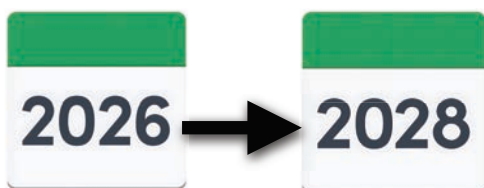
From April 2025 to June 2025 you will have 12 weeks to tell the government:



- What you think about the changes and
- How the changes will affect you.



The government will make final decisions on things we are asking about this Autumn.



Changes to the PIP benefit and the Universal Credit health element will happen in 2026. Other changes will take longer.

The main benefits we have

Personal Independence Payment

This is called **PIP** for short.



PIP is a benefit that some people with a disability or a health condition get.



The money is to help pay for things you need to help you because of your disability or health condition.



Things like:

- Doing day to day things



- Travelling and getting around.

Universal Credit

This is a benefit that is given to people who:

- Are out of work
- Cannot work. This might be because of a disability or health condition.
- Are in work but don't earn very much money.



If you have a health condition or disability, you can get extra money.

This is called the **health element** of Universal Credit.

This is also known as **Limited Capability for Work and Work Related Activity**.



Before you get the health element of Universal Credit, you must first have a **Work Capability Assessment**.

This is a check to see if you are able to work or not.

Disability Living Allowance



This is called **DLA** for short.

DLA is an old benefit. It is to pay for the extra costs of being ill or disabled.



People who still get DLA are:

- Children under 16 years old

and



- People who were born on or before 8th April 1948 and were already getting DLA.



Nowadays most adults get PIP instead.

The cost of benefits



More and more people need help from benefits every year.



This costs the government a lot of money.

We think that by 2030, we will be spending 70 billion pounds every year on benefits.



We need to spend less money than we would spend if we do not make the changes.



And we want to support more disabled people and people with a health condition into work, if they can.



This will help people who can work to earn their own money.

Why we want to change things



There are some problems with the way we give benefits at the moment. Things like:



- People are seen as being able to work or not work at all.



- There is not a lot of support for people when the assessment says they are not able to work.



- People do not get help from benefits quickly enough. Getting help quickly can stop problems from happening or getting worse.



- People have had bad experiences trying to get help.



We want to change how we do things.
We are going to change:



- How we give health and disability benefits.



- The support we can give to help people to work.



- What some people must do to be paid all of their benefits.



Some people's benefits will not change. They will get the same amount of money that they do now.



But some people will get less money

How to send your answers back to us



We want to know what you think about our ideas for changes to health and disability benefits and how we support people to work.



Please fill in our survey and send your answers back to us.



Post your answers to:

Pathways To Work Green Paper
Disability and Health Support
Directorate
Department for Work and Pensions
Level 2 Caxton House
Tothill Street
London
SW1H 9NA



Email us your answers to:

consultation.pathwaystowork@dwp.gov.uk



We also have an online survey.
This survey is not in easy read.



If you want to fill in the online survey,
go to our website:

[www.gov.uk/government/
consultations/pathways-to-work-
reforming-benefits-and-support-to-
get-britain-working-green-paper](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/pathways-to-work-reforming-benefits-and-support-to-get-britain-working-green-paper)



We need everyone's answers back by
Monday 30th June 2025.

Changes we are going to make to health and disability benefits

Change 1: Changing the rules about who can get PIP



We are going to change who can get PIP. PIP will be given to people who find it the hardest to do everyday activities.



People will be able to get PIP if they find it really hard to do some everyday things like:



- Cooking a meal.



- Washing, getting dressed and going to the toilet.



- **Communicating** with other people. **Communicating** is telling people what you want and how you feel.



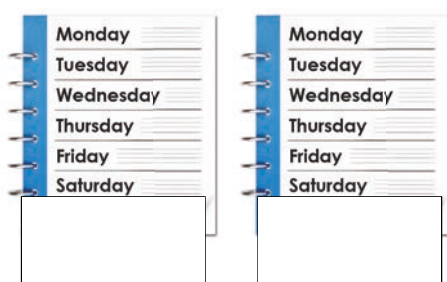
People will only get PIP if they need a lot of help with 1 or more everyday things.



This will make it harder for some people to get PIP.



Some people will stop getting the daily living part of PIP.



At the moment people either get £73.90 or £110.40 a week.



They might also lose some other benefits you can get when you get PIP.

Change 2: Changing how we do assessments

Work Capability Assessments help us to decide if someone is able to work or not.



We are going to stop doing Work Capability Assessments.



People will have a PIP assessment instead. This assessment will look at if the person can do everyday things.

Change 3: Changing Universal Credit

We want to:



- Make Standard Universal Credit payments a little bit bigger for everyone. This is the money everyone gets on Universal Credit.



- In the future we will give less money to people who start getting the health element of Universal Credit.

This is extra money to help you because of a health condition or disability.



At the moment people get £97 a week for the health element.



In the future people who start getting the health element will get £50 a week.



This means they will get less money than people already getting the health element of Universal Credit.



Some people have very serious health conditions that will never get better. And some people will never be able to work.



We will make sure these people can get their benefits without needing any more **re-assessments**.

A **re-assessment** is when we check again to see if someone's health condition has changed.

Questions about changes to health and disability benefits

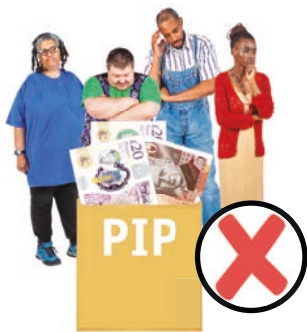


We want people to try work without them worrying that it may affect their benefits.



Question 1: What support do you think the government could give to help with this?

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When we make the changes to PIP, some people will stop getting it.



Question 2: How can we support these people? Please tell us here:

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Healthcare means things like doctors, hospitals and support with mental health.



Social care is care that you get in your own home or in the local community. This might be in places like a day centre or care home.



Question 3: How can we make the experience of healthcare and social care better for people who will stop getting PIP? Please tell us here:



Unemployment Insurance

When people work, some of the money they earn goes to the government.



If people lose their job or cannot work the government gives them some money. This is called a **contributory benefit**.

There are 2 types of contributory benefits.



1. New Style Employment Support Allowance for people with health conditions

and



2. New Style Jobseeker's Allowance for everybody else.



We are thinking of starting Unemployment Insurance. This would be instead of these contributory benefits.



Everyone who can get it would get the same amount of money for the same amount of time.

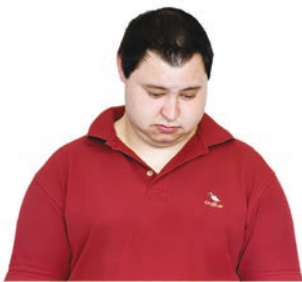


Question 4: How long should people get Unemployment Insurance and what support will they need? Please tell us here:



Keeping people safe

It is really important that we keep people who need benefits safe from **abuse** and **neglect**.



Abuse is when someone does something to hurt you or make you feel bad.



Neglect means not giving someone the help they need. Or it could mean you don't look after yourself very well.



Question 5: What could we do to get better at keeping people safe from harm and abuse?



Please tell us here:

Helping people to work



We want to offer better support to help people to work.



We are going to spend an extra 1 billion pounds each year on better support by 2030.



This will help people to learn new skills and find a job.



We are also going to change the rules about what people have to do to keep getting all their benefits.

Things you will have to do to be able to get all of your benefits



To give people better support, we will talk to them. We call this a **support conversation**.



We will find out things like:

- What work people want to do

and

- What health support they need.



Our idea is that people who are not working and get health and disability benefits will have to have a support conversation.



People will only have to take part in the support conversation once.



If they do not, they may not get all of their benefits.

Question 6: How can we make sure that:



- Support conversations makes a difference to people's lives

and

- More people want to have one?
Please tell us here:





Some people do not get enough help at the moment to move towards work.



We want to change this. We want people to meet with us from time to time.



We will talk about work and what support we can give them. This is different to a support conversation.



Question 7: How can we make sure that these meetings make a difference to people's lives?



Please tell us here:



Some people will just have to take part in meetings from time to time and nothing else.



Other people will also have to look for jobs or take part in other activities.



People could lose their benefits if they don't take part in meetings from time to time or look for a job.



Question 8: How should we decide who needs to look for jobs or take part in other activities and who does not?



Please tell us here:



Question 9: Some people might say no to having a support conversation.



If people say no, should this affect what benefits they get? Please tell us here:



Some people will not have to have a support conversation, meetings from time to time or look for jobs.



Question 10: How should we decide who does not need to have a support conversation, meetings from time to time or look for jobs? Please tell us here:

Changes to benefits for young people



At the moment, Disability Living Allowance for children stops when they are 16 years old.



They can then ask for PIP which is a benefit for adults.



We are thinking about changing this to 18 years old.



This means they can ask for PIP at the same time they do other adult things, like leaving school.



This change means some young people get more money until they are 18. But some young people would get less money.



Question 11: What do you think about this idea? Please tell us here:



Most people can ask for Universal Credit when they are 18 years old. Some people can ask for it when they are 16 or 17.



We want to change the age that young people can get the health element of Universal Credit.



We want to make sure that all young people are either working or in school or college until they are 21. This is called our **Youth Guarantee**.



Our idea is that people will not get the health element of Universal Credit until they are 22.



This means that young people under 22 would not get the health element of Universal Credit.



At the moment, this is £423.27 a month.



Question 12: What do you think about this idea? Please tell us here:

Access to Work

Access to Work is help people can get from the Government to do their job.



Things like:

- Money to help with travelling to work.
- Things to help people do their job. This might be laptops and things that can read aloud.
- Money to pay for a support worker to help someone at work.



We want to make Access to Work better. This will help more people to be able to work and get a job.



An **employer** is the organisation or people you work for.



Question 13: How can we support employers to help disabled people and people with health conditions into work? Please tell us here:



Question 14a: What should Access to Work pay for? Please tell us here:



Question 14b: How can we make sure Access to Work helps as many people as possible? Please tell us here:



Question 15: How can we make
Access to Work better than it is now?
Please tell us here:



Lots of organisations want to help disabled people to have good jobs.

Organisations like the **Equality and Human Rights Commission** and the **Health and Safety Executive**.



These organisations work to protect people's **rights**. Your **rights** are things you are allowed to do and how you should be treated.



Question 16: How can we make sure these organisations are supporting:

- Employers

- Disabled people to get into work

- and

- Disabled people when they are at work?





Please tell us here:



Question 17: How should people get help from Access to Work in the future? Please tell us here:

Questions about you



Question 18: Please tell us why you are answering these questions. This might be because you are:



— Someone who is interested in health and disability benefits



— A business



— An organisation that helps people with benefits

— Other. Please tell us here:



Question 19: Which part of the UK do you live in?

☐

England

☐

Scotland

☐

Wales

☐

Northern Ireland

☐

I do not live in the UK

☐

I do not want to say



Question 20: Do you have a health condition or a disability


☐

Yes


☐

No


☐

I do not want to say



Thank you for answering our questions.



Now you have finished, please send your answers back to us.



We told you how to do this on **page 10.**



Important

In this easy read we have said how much people get in benefits now. This means how much they get from April 2025 to April 2026.