



Talking to your MP about Personal Independence Payment (PIP)

This is an easy read guide to talking to your MP about the benefit called Personal Independence Payment (PIP).



What is PIP?

PIP is the new benefit that has taken over from Disability Living Allowance (DLA).

It gives extra financial support to disabled people to help them with the extra cost of their disability or health condition.



What are the problems with PIP?

We asked lots of disabled people what they think about PIP.



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They told us there are 5 main problems with PIP.



1. Applying for PIP is confusing.



2. Assessments for PIP **make people's** health worse.

An assessment is a meeting where you talk about how your disability affects you.



3. Assessments for PIP are often wrong.

This means **they don't show how your** disability really affects you.



4. Lots of people have to have assessments every year.

This happens to some people even though **their disability isn't going to get better.**



5. Lots of people get less money under PIP than they did under DLA.



Why should I talk to my MP about PIP?



Your MP speaks up for you in Parliament and in your local area.



This means they want to hear your views so they can speak up for you properly.



MPs can help the Government make big decisions about PIP, so talking to your MP can change PIP for everyone.



What should I tell my MP to do?

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There are 2 things we want MPs to do to help make PIP better.



1. Write a letter to the Minister of State for Disabled People, who is Sarah Newton MP.



This letter should tell her about the problems with PIP so the Government knows what they need to fix.



2. Support you or other disabled people in your local area if you are having problems with PIP.



Do you have questions?

If you have any questions about talking to your MP about PIP, you can contact Mencap:



by email on campaigns@mencap.org.uk



by telephone on 0207 696 6954.