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Operations FoI Team
Caxton House
Tothill Street
LONDON
SW1H 9NA

8 May 2015

www.gov.uk

Dear Natalie,

Freedom of Information request reference: VTR 581

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 13 February 2015.

You asked:

I would like to make a Freedom of Information request regarding the 49 reviews looking into the suicides of people who had been sanctioned.

Please can you tell me:

How many of the 49 people were JSA claimants at the time of their death?

How many were ESA claimants at the time of their death?

How many were receiving another type of benefit at the time of their death?

The 49 peer reviews to which you refer were conducted in cases where the person had died, but not all as a result of suicide or subject to a sanction.

At the time of death, eight people were claiming Job Seekers Allowance, 22 were claiming Employment and Support Allowance, one was claiming Pension Credit and five were not claiming benefit. In the remaining cases, from the information held in the Peer Reviews it is not clear which benefit was being claimed at the time of death.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely

DWP Operations Freedom of Information Team

e-mail: freedom-of-information-request@dwpgsi.gov.uk

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing freedom-of-information-request@dwpgsi.gov.uk or by writing to DWP, Central FoI Team, Caxton House, Tothill Street, London, SW1H 9NA. Any review request should be submitted within two months of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF www.ico.gov.uk