



Department  
for Work &  
Pensions

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[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

Dear Natalie,

**Re: Your FOI request of 5 June 2015. Our ref: VTR2307 and your complaint to the Information Commissioner ref: FS505097166**

On 5 June 2015 you posed the following questions to the department:-

**[1]** Out of the 40 peer reviewed cases where claimants had died from suicide or apparent suicide, how many had been claiming ESA in the six months preceding their death?

**[2]** And how many of these ESA claimants fell under the classification of 'mental and behavioural disorders' as a primary or secondary condition?

You subsequently made a complaint to the Information Commissioner regarding the refusal of the department to release this information under s.44 of the FOI Act.

The ICO duly considered your complaint and directed the department to release the information to you. In this instance the department is content to comply with the direction of the Commissioner. The information you seek is laid out below.

**DWP response:**

1. 18
2. 13

Yours sincerely

DWP Operations FOI Team