

## **Disability Living Allowance**

*Introduced 1 April 1992*

*Non-contributory, Not income related, Non-taxable*

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) replaced and extended Attendance Allowance and Mobility Allowance in April 1992 for people who became disabled before the age of 65. People already in receipt of either Attendance Allowance or Mobility Allowance before April 1992 were invited to make a 'top up' claim for the other component.

DLA is payable to people who are disabled and who have personal care needs, mobility needs or both. DLA consists of two components:

The care component: for people who need help with personal care;

The mobility component: for people who need help with getting around (it is not available for children under three).

The care component is paid at one of three rates and the mobility component at one of two rates.

To qualify for DLA the need for help must have existed for three months (the qualifying period) and be expected to last for at least a further six months (the prospective test). People who are not expected to live longer than six months because of an illness do not have to satisfy either the qualifying period or the prospective test. Once awarded, DLA will continue to be paid as long as the conditions of entitlement are met.

### **The *terms and conventions* used within the tables are explained below:**

#### **Allowances current**

The number of people in receipt of DLA, AA or CA. This excludes people with entitlement where the payment has been suspended.

#### **Liveload**

The number of people with entitlement to DLA, AA or CA. This includes people the payment has been suspended for example, because someone is in hospital.

#### **Main disabling condition**

This is the medical cause of the main disability which gives rise to the award of DLA or AA.

#### **Award**

This is first or subsequent award of benefit.

## Review

A person who is dissatisfied with the result of their last claim can ask for the claim to be reviewed.

## **Conventions**

- .. Not available
- . Not applicable
- Nil or negligible