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Stick-It-2™

Challenge a PIP Decision Guide

England and Wales

The Full Monty Pack

Understand the Tests

Build Your Challenge

Prepare for the Hearing

Check the Outcome

Know Specialist Routes

CONTENT REVIEW DRAFT V0.1

Start here

If a Personal Independence Payment (PIP) decision has refused your claim, awarded too little, reduced your award or stopped it, take a moment. Breathe. You do not have to explain your whole life today.

Put the decision letter beside you. Keep every page and the envelope. Write down its date, when it arrived and whether it says Mandatory Reconsideration Notice. The route depends on which decision you have.

Protect the challenge date before waiting for a report, medical letter or complaint reply.

Your first small actions

Original decision: if you choose to challenge, ask the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) for mandatory reconsideration (MR). Usually a written request must arrive within one calendar month of the letter's date. Use letter T01.

MR outcome: use the official appeal service or current Social Security and Child Support form SSCS1. Aim for receipt within one month of the notice being sent. Drafting aid T05 helps with reasons; it does not submit an appeal.

Date already passed? Act promptly, explain the delay and ask for extra time. Acceptance has conditions. Check before assuming nothing can be done.

Ask someone you trust to read the letter with you. A complaint about an assessor does not correct an award or stop either clock. Providers advise; DWP decides. Sources S02, S03, S07 and S14.

If essentials are at risk, seek urgent welfare-rights or local council support. MR or appeal does not automatically restore stopped or reduced PIP. Keep money help and the challenge moving together.

How to use this pack

This guide covers challenging PIP decisions in England and Wales: decisions on new claims, planned reviews, renewal or change processes, insufficient rates, award dates and stopped awards. Begin with the notice actually issued; a missing payment may first need a payment explanation rather than an entitlement appeal.

Each pack can be used on its own. Panic gives immediate action, the essential evidence test, MR and appeal routes, hearing protection and deadline safeguards after a tribunal. Fight Back adds the complete descriptor reference, fuller evidence work and hearing preparation. Full Monty adds detailed post-tribunal legal-error and implementation routes.

Use Find your situation or the clickable Contents. Blue boxes show explanations or fictional examples; orange boxes flag time or risk. Letters and the appeal drafting aid are separate editable Word files in the Letters folder. Worksheets are in Supporting_Tools and reproduced here for reference. PDF tool files are previews. A worksheet records information; it does not lodge a challenge.

Scotland uses Adult Disability Payment (ADP) and Social Security Scotland redetermination/appeal routes. Northern Ireland has PIP through the Department for Communities and a separate Appeals Service. Use those official routes, not these England/Wales addresses. Sources S22 and S23.

The companion, PIP Claims and Reviews Delays Evidence and Assessment Problems, covers starting/managing claims and assessment-service problems. You do not need it to use this guide: the evidence, reliability and challenge essentials are here.

Use your real facts. Do not try a dangerous task to create evidence, change treatment to prove difficulty or copy a fictional example as your own experience. There is no guaranteed result.

Find your situation

Choose the line closest to the notice or problem you have. Protect dates while you prepare the evidence.

Your situation	Go to
I have an original refusal, reduction or stopped award	Read the decision before choosing a route
Time is short or I may already be late	Protect each separate deadline
I need to understand points and functional evidence	Understand the functional test
I want DWP to look again at its decision	Ask for mandatory reconsideration
I have an MR notice and still disagree	Lodge the tribunal appeal
I have received the DWP response or bundle	Work with the response and evidence bundle
A hearing is listed or I need support	Prepare for the hearing and take part
The tribunal has decided my appeal	After the tribunal decision