



East Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau Weekly Update

17/03/2023

Good News Story –

Our client is a veteran who originally approached ASAP for help back in May 2021. He had various health conditions which limited his ability to work & he had already claimed Universal Credit (UC). He had completed an application (UC50 form) for “Limited capability for work” (LCWRA) to remove his job search requirements and this had been declined by DWP. He approached ASAP for help.

We completed a 1st stage appeal (Mandatory Reconsideration-MR) for his UC LCWRA. We completed a Benefits Check at the same time and established a possible eligibility for Personal Independence Payment (PIP) Our client was nervous to apply for PIP as he had applied previously with assistance elsewhere and this had been declined. With further information, support and reassurance from ASAP, he decided to proceed. We made contact to the PIP Helpline and initiated the claim.

Within 6 weeks, our client’s Mandatory Reconsideration for UC LCWRA proved successful, with a backdated payment of £1062 and on-going additional monthly payment of £354. Our client was delighted.

The PIP application followed its course and our client’s application was declined- scoring 0 points after 4 months. We supported our client to Mandatory Reconsideration- declined again scoring 4 points for Daily Living Component and 4 points for Mobility. We supported our client again to Appeal stage- declined yet again- no change to MR decision.

We proceeded to represent our client at HMCTS 1st Tier Tribunal; his case was heard earlier this month.

We are delighted to report that his case was won and DWP decision overturned. He was awarded BOTH components of PIP including Enhanced Rate for Mobility. In the coming weeks, our client will receive a backdated lump sum payment of circa £12,000. He will receive an on-going 4 weekly payment of £505.40 until May 2024. Total financial gain to our client £19710. Needless to say that our client was overwhelmed with this outcome.

This has been life changing for him and has had a hugely positive effect on his mental health too. We continue to support this client to access further benefits passported through this award. Automatic entitlement to a Blue Badge and access to the Motability scheme.

Good News Story –

Last year, a long-term client of the bureau was in need of assistance with applying for Personal Independence Payment (PIP). Client had previously been in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) but unfortunately in 2019 their award was stopped and client has been unable to obtain a new disability benefit award since.

Adviser completed PIP application form with client and a few months later we received decision of ‘No Award’. A Mandatory Reconsideration (MR) was submitted with supporting medical evidence; this too was unsuccessful in changing DWP’s decision.

At this stage we registered an appeal with HMCTS against the decision made by DWP. We were also able to gather supporting evidence and further information from clients’ family.

This week, client and adviser attended the tribunal hearing; the decision made by DWP was overturned and our client was awarded Enhanced Rate of Daily Living component (£92.40 weekly) for 5 years.

This amounts to a total Client Financial Gain (CFG) of **£24,024**, which includes a lump sum backdated payment of **£3,900**.

If you or someone you know has recently made an unsuccessful PIP application please contact our benefits advisers are here to support with this process and appointments can be arranged via 0141 881 2032, or by popping in to the office.

ERCAB Outreach (NEW) –

We have recently added new outreach services:

Barrhead –

Monday 10am-1pm at The ARC, 64 Aurs Drive, G78 2LW.

Thornliebank –

Thursday 10am-1pm at The Thornliebank Food Share, Thorntree Hall, Main Street, G46 7SF.

Bureau Details:

E: ere-bureau@eastrenfrewshirecab.casonline.org.uk

Facebook – [East Renfrewshire CAB](#)

Twitter @EastAdvice