

HB Alerts

Circular Reference:		G5 2010	
Subject:	General Information	Effective Date:	1st April 2010
Summary			
Right Benefit Indicator (NI180 England) The Right Benefit Indicator (RBI) has been removed from the National Indicators used for local authorities in England with effect from the 2010/11 financial year. The RBI will still be provided to LAs by the DWP on a monthly basis via spreadsheet classified as management information.			
The DWP still consider RBI information to be vital to assist LAs to administer HB & CTB. The DWP will review the RBI information and will consider options to replace it from 2011/12 in consultation with LA associations.			
CIS prompts to LA's project All LAs should now have received version 1C of the guidance and training manual for this project. The DWP ask all LA staff who will be using the new CIS functionality to ensure they have undertaken the 30 min presentation and familiarised themselves with the content of the training and guidance manual.			
If LAs have not received version 1C an email link is provided in the circular that can be used to request additional copies. Information on the progress of the project can also be found online using the link provided in the circular.			
Appeals The Tribunal Service (TS) are receiving some submissions marked as "misconceived". Under the new law this category of appeal can not be used instead any appeals being submitted by LA's that they would have previously considered as misconceived must produce a short submission (at least 1 page of A4) containing a concise focused argument why the appeal has no prospect of success and ask the TS to strike out the appeal under rule 8(3)(c) of the Tribunal Procedure (First-tier Tribunal)(Social Entitlement Chamber) Rules 2008.			
The HB/CTB guidance manual will be updated to reflect this change. The circular also contains information about cases currently awaiting decisions to be made by the upper tribunal.			
Suggested Action Ensure all staff are made aware of the changes outlined in the circular and that staff who will use the new CIS functionality have received the current version of the training manual and have watched the presentation.			

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All staff that submit submissions for appeals to the tribunal service are informed of the new