

Legal and political response to DWP deaths

9 March 2001 - National Audit Office report finds "serious problems" with medical assessment of incapacity and disability benefits.

10 December 2003 - DWP's chief medical adviser, Mansel Aylward, gives evidence to the Commons Public Accounts Committee over accusations that health care professionals, carrying out assessments on behalf of DWP, are treating claimants like "lumps of meat."

15 January 2008 - Bid to regulate health care professionals carrying out work capability assessments fails.

30 March 2010 - Prevention of future deaths (PFD) report finds that the rejection of his appeal that he was not fit for work was a 'trigger' in Stephen Carré's death.

4 May 2010 - Coroner Tom Osborne receives initial response to the Stephen Carré PFD from DWP permanent secretary Sir Leigh Lewis.

September 2010 - DWP fails in its legal duty to respond to the Stephen Carré prevention of future deaths report.

23 November 2010 - Professor Malcolm Harrington publishes his first independent review of the Work Capability

Assessment, **finding that** the system is "impersonal" but not "broken" (later evidence would emerge that he had not been informed by DWP of the coroner's report for Stephen Carré.)

1 February 2012 - Commons invokes financial privilege to pass the Welfare Reform Act 2012, quashing Lords amendments to soften changes to the benefits system.

11 Sept 2013 - "Shocking" bedroom tax should be axed, says UN investigator, who reported that the most vulnerable were being affected, with some talking about suicide.

Legal and political response to DWP deaths

25 September 2013 - The death of Tim Salter after being found fit for work. A coroner later ruled that a major factor in his death was the reduction in his benefits.

4 December 2013 - Despite the Court of Appeal ruling that the Work Capability Assessment discriminates against people with mental health conditions, the DWP tells senior civil servants it is "business as usual".

7 January 2014 - Inquest into the death of Michael O'Sullivan, where the Coroner concludes that the trigger for Michael O'Sullivan's suicide was his assessment as being fit for work, and writes a prevention of future deaths report to DWP, saying that "there is a risk that future deaths will occur unless action is taken".

10 November 2014 - DWP questioned over how many coroner's letters about benefits-related deaths it has received in the past 10 years.

26 June 2015 - DWP says coroners' letters expressing concern about the deaths of benefit claimants are not handled by a specific official, revealing no centralised process for accountability.

18 September 2015 - First coroner's report to link work capability assessment (WCA) with the death of a person claiming benefits – Michael O'Sullivan.

20 January 2016 - Coroner publishes prevention of future deaths (PFD) report into death of Sophie/Faiza (see 7 November 2014), calling for DWP to take action to prevent further deaths.

12 May 2016 - DWP releases redacted versions of 49 peer reviews, showing that ministers were repeatedly warned that policies were putting the lives of "vulnerable" claimants at risk

IF YOU THINK
DISABLED PEOPLE
DON'T HAVE THE
RIGHT TO DIGNITY
& LIFE, THEN TAKE
A GOOD LOOK AT
YOURSELF, AT YOUR
SUBTRACTING SOUL &
PRAY
YOU NEVER NEED
YOUR FELLOW HUMANS
TO SAVE YOU.

My name is Dolly Sen. I am a disabled artist & activist. I have made art & film about how the Dept of Work & Pensions have driven people to suicide, starvation & early death after being labelled 'fit for work'.

This is an information zine

Please be aware that you may find things upsetting.

Look after yourself

DWP KILLS DISABLED PEOPLE



14 Oct 2009 The Express publishes misleading and inaccurate benefit fraud story about incapacity benefit claimants "faking their illnesses".

Oct 2011 - Research shows a 'significant increase' in the number of negative stories about disabled work capability assessment (WCA) are broadcast on the same night, showing people in national newspapers

6 Nov 2016 - Government leaks UN committee on the rights of persons with disabilities report to Mail on Sunday in attempt to discredit its findings.

17 Dec 2021 - Channel 4's Dispatches exposes links between DWP and the deaths of claimants

DWP DEATHS AND THE MEDIA

LINKS TO DWP ACTIVISM

ART

you can see my documentary *Broken Hearts for the DWP* at <https://youtu.be/EySSd1qgTIV>

Vince Laws' *DWP Makes Me Sick* page is at <https://www.facebook.com/DWPDeaths/>

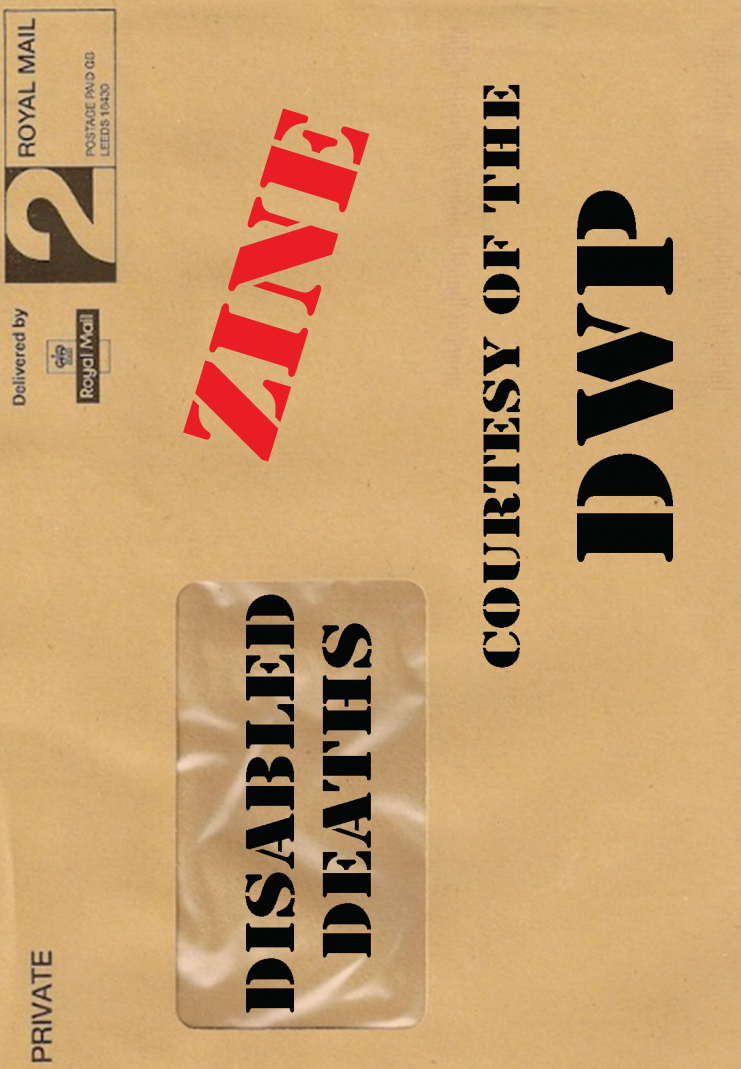
Crippen the cartoonist has a lot of DWP based cartoons at crippencartoons.com

<https://nowthenmagazine.com/articles/-/disabld-artists-pro-test-the-many-costs-of-living-shape-artists-bella-milroy>

FROM THE BROKEN HEART
& QUEER BRAIN OF DOLLY SEN
& DEATHSBYWELFARE.ORG



WWW.DOLLYSEN.COM



SOME DWP DEATHS

there are thousands more

Timothy Finn – **Starved to death** / Stephen Carrè – **Suicide** / Paul Reekie – **Suicide** / Ms DE - **Suicide** / Karen Sherlock – **Died after being found ‘fit to work’** / Colin Traynor - **Died after being found ‘fit to work’** / Edward Jacques – **Suicide** / Brian McArdle - **Died after being found ‘fit to work’** / Linda Wooton - **Died after being found ‘fit to work’** / Stephanie Bottrill – **Suicide** / David Clapson – **Died after being Sanctioned** / Mark Wood – **Starved to Death** / David Barr – **Suicide** / Michael O’Sullivan – **Suicide** / Tim Salter – **Suicide** / Faiza Ahmed – **Suicide** / Sue Holt – **Died after Work Capacity Assessment** / Luke Alexander Loy – **Died after being found ‘fit to work’** / Moira Drury – **Died after benefits stopped** / Frances McCormack – **Suicide** / Paul Donnachie – **Suicide** / Susan Roberts – **Suicide** / Lawrence Bond – **Died after visiting Job Centre** / Jodey Whiting – **Suicide** / Diane Hullah – **Suicide** / Mark Barber – **Suicide** / Errol Graham – **Starved to Death** / Roy Curtis – **Suicide** / James Oliver – **Died after Benefits stopped** / Stephen Smith – **Died after being found ‘fit to work’** / Phillipa Day – **Suicide** / Christian Wilcox – **Suicide** / Philip Pakree – **Died from Stress of Upcoming WCA** / Ker Featherstone – **Suicide** / Richard Sanderson – **Suicide** / Paul Wilcoxson – **Suicide** / Leanne Chambers – **Suicide** / Kayjah Pardo – **Suicide** / Elaine & Robert Christian – **Suicide** / David Groves – **Died day before benefit assessment** / Shaun Pilkington – **Suicide** / Nicolas Peter Barker – **Suicide** / Robert Barlow – **Deemed ‘fit for work’ despite being given a few months to live** / Cecilia Burns – **Died after being found ‘fit to work’** / Steven Cawthra – **Suicide** / David Coupe – **Benefits cut whilst terminally ill** / Jacqueline Harris – **Suicide** / Vicky Harrison – **Suicide** / Stephen Hill – **Died after being found ‘fit to work’** / Craig Monk – **Suicide** / Terry McGarvey – **Died on the day of ‘fitness to work’ assessment** / Mark & Helen Mullins – **Suicide** / Larry Newman – **Died after being found ‘fit to work’** / Carl Payne – **Suicide** / Lee Robinson – **Suicide** / Martin Rust – **Suicide** / Tim Salter – **Suicide** / Elenore Tatton – **Died after being found ‘fit to work’** / Paul Turner – **Died after being found ‘fit to work’** / John Walker – **Suicide** / Julia Kelly – **Suicide** / Ben McDonald – **Suicide** / Michael Connolly – **Suicide** / Martin Hadfield – **Suicide** / Janet McCall – **Died after being found ‘fit to work’**