

28th June 2017

Dept. of Social Protection Fraud and Error survey to begin WRT people in receipt of Carers Allowance

We have been advised by the Dept. of Social Protection (DSP) that a 'fraud and error survey' is about to commence with respect to people in receipt of Carers Allowance.

We understand that this is an integral part of the Department's control strategy. In the region of 70,000 Carers are in receipt of this payment, of whom approximately 25,000 are in receipt of the half-rate payment (most significantly those aged 65 and over).

A **random** sample of 600 carer's allowance customers were selected for the survey. Details of the relevant customers are being sent to Social Welfare Inspectors around the country, who have been asked to interview the carers and determine that they continue to satisfy the conditions for receipt of carer's allowance.

Should your organisation receive any calls from concerned carers, please advise them re the above process and that if they have any further concerns they should contact the Carer's Allowance section in the DSP Longford Office at 1890 92 77 70 or (043) 334 0000.

The Family Carers Ireland Careline team (**1800 24 07 24** <http://familycarers.ie/help-and-advice/freephone-careline/>) are aware of this initiative and are available to support Family Carers through what can be an anxiety raising process.

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