

# WELFARE REFORM ACT 2012

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

#### **Part 5: Social security: General**

##### ***Section 99: Powers to require information relating to claims and awards***

487. *Section 99* amends SSAA 1992 to enable regulations to require prescribed people to supply information that is or could be relevant to potential or current claims and awards of relevant benefits. New *section 5(1A)* of SSAA 1992 will ensure that the Secretary of State can make regulations to obtain information.

Examples of how this might be used are:

- using information from other Government departments to enable DWP to undertake campaigns to ensure people are aware that they could receive particular benefits;
- using information held by other Government departments, agencies and service providers that could be used to determine entitlement to, and maintain accurate assessment of a social security benefit;
- to assist in the transition from existing benefits onto the universal credit;
- to obtain information and facilitate the localisation of benefits and services where it would be right for DWP to do so.

488. *Subsections (2), (4) and (5)* make consequential amendments resulting from these changes and repeal legislation replaced by the new *section 5(1A)*. *Part 10* of Schedule 13 contains consequential repeals.

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