

Brief descriptions of the principal reasons for collection

- 1 The following provides a brief description of each of the twelve identified principal reasons for collecting data on the extract and these are the same reasons which appear at appendix A.

Backdating

- 2 These fields provide information on backdating which is used to feed into DWP forecasts and policy analysis.

Caseload

- 3 These fields allow the Department to derive caseload figures for each LA. These feed into National Statistics and DWP financial planning. Data from 2008/9 onwards will also be used to calculate future admin subsidy.

Claim Details

- 4 These fields contain basic claim details which are used in policy and statistical analysis.

Data Match Referrals

- 5 These fields provide the Housing Benefit Matching Service (HBMS) with information about the effectiveness of data matches, thus improving the service provided.

Data Matching

- 6 These fields are used to identify potential fraud & error within the system.

Fraud & Error

- 7 These fields are used to improve DWP understanding of fraud & error in the system, which will be used to improve service provided to LAs in this area.

Key

- 8 These are key fields allowing us to identify which record belongs to which claim.

Local Housing Allowance

- 9 These fields provide DWP and LAs with information about the rollout of the Local Housing Allowance (LHA) and any potential issues with this.

'Right Time' indicator

- 10 These fields provide data that to derive the right time performance indicator for 2008/9.

'Right Benefit' indicator

- 11 These fields provide data that to derive the right benefit performance indicator for 2008/9.

Management Information

- 12 These fields contain information that will be combined to produce various management information statistics which will be presented on the Housing Benefit Operational Database (HoBOD) and used by LAs to monitor and benchmark performance.

Review

- 13 These fields will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of LA reviews and of the service provided by risk scores and data matches.