

LEGAL & GENERAL'S GROUP INCOME PROTECTION POLICY LEADS THE WAY FOR EMPLOYEE REHABILITATION SERVICES

- ***FTSE 100 insurer has focused on providing market leading rehabilitation services to provide better support for employees and speeding up recovery time, funding over 3,000 treatment sessions in 2018***
- ***18% of claimants in the UK that returned to work in the deferred period of their group income protection policies were supported by Legal & General***
- ***Mental health issues remain the top cause of claims on Legal & General's Group Income Protection policies***

Figures released today from Legal & General reveal that the FTSE 100 insurer paid a total of £292m in Group Protection claims in 2018. The latest statistics also show that the market leading rehabilitation and early intervention services provided as part of its Group Income Protection (GIP) policies helped 18% of total UK employees covered by GIP and who were absent from work due to illness back into the workplace during their deferred period.

Through its GIP policies, the insurer was able to help 631 employees return to work within the deferred period. A further 269 employees were able to return to work outside the deferred period with the support of the insurer's early intervention services. The statistics also reveal that mental health issues continued to be the main reason for new GIP claims in 2018, accounting for 25% of claims.

The latest figures follow a continued focus by Legal & General on leading the way in providing rehabilitation services where appropriate. These services not only help employees with physical and mental health illnesses to access treatment quickly but are also designed to facilitate a faster return to work.

The insurer's comprehensive Early Intervention Programme and rehabilitation services are focused on supporting and benefitting the employee throughout their time off work, with trained clinicians assessing the best course of action to help them cope with their issues. By funding treatment for employees who are unable to work long-term, at no additional cost to the employer, Legal & General aims to provide a flexible service that's designed to actively improve the health and productivity of today's workforce.

In 2018, the insurer facilitated almost 3,200 sessions for claimants suffering from physical and mental health conditions to its physiotherapy and psychological healthcare provider partners.

Vanessa Sallows, Claims and Governance Director at Legal & General's Group Protection, said:

"These new figures clearly show the important role that Legal & General plays within the Group Protection industry. Paying a total of £292m in 2018 highlights the valuable financial support these policies can provide to our customers and their employees when they need it most.

"However, financial peace of mind is not the only benefit these policies can provide. Being unable to work due to illness or injury can be a frightening prospect for many people which is why we are dedicated to supporting these individuals through our market leading rehabilitation services. We can provide quick access to trained experts who are completely focussed on giving them the right treatment and, where possible, helping them get back to work more quickly.

"Supporting an employee at an early stage can be the difference between people being able stay in work and managing their health challenges and taking an extended period off that could stretch into months, or even years. So, it's great to see so many people taking advantage of our flexible service, with nearly 3,200 treatment sessions being fulfilled through our partners."

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FURTHER INFORMATION (JOURNALISTS ONLY)

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NOTES TO EDITORS

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ABOUT LEGAL & GENERAL

The Legal & General Group, established in 1836, is one of the UK's leading financial services companies. As at 30 June 2018, we had over 9.5 million customers in the UK for our life assurance, pensions, investments and general insurance plans.

We're a leading provider of Group Protection cover in the UK with over 85 years of expertise and knowledge. We looked after over 4,300 group protection policies and provided protection to almost two million employees at the end of 2018.

