

Item A7

Welfare Reform Update

06/02/2019

Understanding and Helping Our Customers

Universal Credit Update

- Known factors
- Full service started on 17th October 2018
- Managed Migration – amended roll out
- Homeless claims & Supported accommodation claims to be paid through housing benefit (HB). Now added SDP customers from 16/01/2019
- Families with 3 or more children can claim UC from 01/02/2019
- Protection for children born prior to April 17 introduced



Kettering
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Understanding and Helping Our Customers

Universal Credit Update

- Unknowns
- Legal challenge – Periodic wages at irregular intervals, customer won case – appeal?
- Pensioners – mixed age couples now potentially working age from May 2019
- Increasing complication of the system – open and transparent system being clouded by increasing complexity and transitional protection
- Portal for private landlords to get rent paid direct?

Discretionary Housing Payments

- 478 Applications to date for 18/19
- Approx. £128k spent (£38k remaining)
- Impact of full UC as yet unknown
- Sufficient money left to cover the year based on historical levels
- Next years award currently unknown