

'at a glance guide to'
Benefit Changes in the
HM Treasury Autumn Budget 2017
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Area of Benefits Affected	Benefit Change	Reference- Autumn Budget date 22 11 2017 policy paper & The Secretary of State for Work and Pensions (Mr David Gauke) statement 23/11/2017
Benefit changes		
Universal Credit- Short Term Advances	From January 2018 clients will be able to get up to 100% of expected UC as an advance payment repayable over 12 months(this replaces the current system of a 50% advance repayable over 6 months). New claimants in December 2017 will be able to receive an advance of 50% of their monthly entitlement at the beginning of their claim and a second advance to take it up to 100% in the new year, before their first payment date.	7.3
Universal Credit-removal of the 7 waiting day period	From February 2018 the removal of the 7 day waiting period at the start of the claim(currently affecting 70% of claimants) Costing £205 million per year in 2019/2020. Note this is dwarfed by cuts of £5.5 billion made by the treasury when work allowances(earnings disregards) were reduced in April 2016(£3.5 billion) and cuts to 2 children (1.365 billion) and the first child element(£0.36 billion) in April 2017. Figures include tax credit equivalent cuts.	7.3
Housing Benefit-run on for Universal Credit claimants	From April 2018 those already on Housing Benefit will continue to receive their award for the first two weeks of their Universal Credit claim Costing £125 million per year in 2019/2020.	7.3
Universal Credit Housing Costs-direct pay to the landlord- private rented sector	'Next month(December 2017), new guidance will be issued to staff to ensure that claimants in the private rented sector who have their housing benefit paid directly to landlords are offered that option when they join universal credit.'	7.3
Universal Credit-slow down in the rollout of the digital service(full) service areas	Rollout of UC between February 2018 and April 2018 to be slowed, and roll-out to all jobcentres will be completed in December 2018(originally due to be completed by September 2018).	7.3
Universal Credit-temporary accommodation	From April 2018, as a short-term measure, enable local authorities to recoup more than 80 per cent of the money they spend on temporary accommodation directly from the DWP rather than from claimants.	statement 23/11/2017
Universal Credit-	'...close new claims to our prototype universal credit live	statement 23/11/2017

live service to stop for new claimants-

service. That will not affect any existing claims.'

Universal Credit- families with three or more children

Families with three or more children will still claim legacy benefits(not be able to go on Universal Credit) until January 2019(instead of November 2018).

statement 23/11/2017

Universal Credit- more involvement with Citizens Advice

Extend partnership working with Citizens Advice to provide more face to face support to universal credit claimants.

statement 23/11/2017

Universal Credit- earning more

£8 million to trial innovative approaches to help individuals on Universal Credit to earn more.

7.3

State Pension and Pension Credit- increases

From April 2018 , the basic State Pension will be increased by the triple lock- 3% or £3.65 per week. There will be similar rises for Pension Credit. The full new State Pension will also be increased by the triple lock, rising by £4.80 per week (most other benefits except disability benefits tend to be frozen as part of ongoing cuts)

7.3

Some Local Housing Allowance Rates to rise

Increase some Local Housing Allowance rates by increasing Targeted Affordability Funding by £40 million in 2018-19 and £85 million in 2019-20. This will increase the housing benefit awards of approximately 140,000 claimants in 2018-19, by an average of £280, in areas where affordability pressures are greatest. (most Local Housing Allowances are frozen even though rents tend to rise) **Costing £280 million per year in 2016/2017.**

6.8

LHA Cap

Not applying the LHA cap to the social rented sector(previously planned for 2019). Would have meant a cut of around £200 million.

Welfare Cap Forecast- margin of error of 3%

£billions	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
new Medium term Welfare Cap	-	-	-	-	-	130.1
interim pathway	119.3	120.9	122.1	123.8	126.9	-

Table 1.5

Autumn Budget date 22 11 2017

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