

Housing Benefit

General Information Bulletin

Department for Work and Pensions, Ground Floor, Caxton House, Tothill Street,
London SW1 9NA

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions>

ISSN 2054-2836 (Online)

HB G7/2017

17 July 2017

Contact	Queries about the <ul style="list-style-type: none">• technical content of this bulletin, contact details are given at the end of each article• distribution of this bulletin, contact housing.correspondenceandpqs@dwp.gsi.gov.uk
Who should read	All Housing Benefit (HB) staff
Action	For information

Contents

paragraph

Clarification on how Universal Credit claimants are affected by the two child limit 1	
Changes to Universal Credit live service forms	7
HB decisions by the Upper Tribunal	10
Statutory Instruments	13
What's new on the web	15

Crown Copyright 2017

Recipients may freely reproduce this bulletin.

Clarification on how Universal Credit claimants are affected by the two child limit

1. Some claimants are being misdirected to claim the wrong benefit depending upon their personal circumstances. This misdirection results in claimants being sent from Universal Credit to tax credits and Housing Benefit (HB) and, often, back again; resulting in financial difficulties.
2. The information below provides clarity on which benefit claimants living within a Universal Credit area should be signposted to.

Claimants with two children or less

3. Claimants can make a new claim to Universal Credit if they have two or less children or qualifying young persons (QYPs); this includes claimants with no children.

Claimants with more than two children

4. Claimants with three or more children or QYPs will not be able to make a new claim for Universal Credit, unless the claimant:
 - has been in receipt of Universal Credit within the previous six month period and is making a re-claim
 - is making a new claim as a single person within one month of a previous joint claim ending, because they are no longer a member of a couple
5. New Universal Credit claimants with more than two children or QYPs will need to apply for Child Tax Credit and any other benefits they may be entitled to including HB.
6. If you have any questions about this article please email housing.benefitenquiries@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Changes to Universal Credit live service forms

7. A change communication and updated 'Universal Credit Live Service guide for local authorities' was hosted on Glasscubes on the 5 July 2017. The guide provides detailed information about the revised Universal Credit live service verification of housing costs form UC182, issued to the social rented sector and of the changes to the live service form UC413 early notification from LAs.

Rent verification form UC182

8. Since 10 July 2017 we have been issuing a new version of the UC182 form that we use to verify rent. The new version gives social landlords the option to request a managed payment of housing costs or deductions for rent arrears.

HB migration form UC413

9. An improvement means that if you have not received form UC413 direct from the Service Centre and you have received notifications to state that a claimant is in receipt of Universal Credit, you can now access, complete and return the form directly from the Universal Credit Live Service guide.

HB decisions by the Upper Tribunal

10. Decision Making and Appeals Leeds is aware of the following HB cases that have been decided by the Upper Tribunal:
- CH/3883/16: Remit. Claimant given insufficient notice that notional capital being considered as an alternative issue.
 - CH 136/17: Dismissed. Overpayment, no official error, failed to disclose partner's pension.
 - CH/109/17: Tribunal failed to explain why HB was payable for two homes.
11. Decisions of the Upper Tribunal are published on their website which can be found on www.gov.uk
12. If you have any queries about cases before the Upper Tribunal Judges or courts, please contact us by email at fldmdma.customersupportservices@dwp.gsi.gov.uk or fax on 0113 232 4841.

Statutory Instruments

13. The following Statutory Instruments (SIs) have been laid:
- 2017 No.717, The Pension Schemes Act 2015 (Transitional Provisions and Appropriate Independent Advice) (Amendment) Regulations 2017, coming into force 6 April 2018
 - 2017 No.725, The Loans for Mortgage Interest Regulations 2017, coming into force from 27 July 2017 other than for Regulations 18 to 21 of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 coming into force on 6 April 2018
14. The following Statutory Rule (SR) of Northern Ireland has been laid:
- 2017 No.118 (C.9), The Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015 (Commencement No. 7) Order 2017 came into force from 10 July 2017
 - Copies of SIs can now be downloaded from DWP's own website <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/publications/specialist-guides/law-volumes/the-law-relating-to-social-security/> and the website of the Office of Publication Sector Information <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/stat.htm>

What's new on our HB pages on www.gov.uk

15. The following items can be found on the website link shown:

Document Type	Subject	Link
HB G6/2017	<p>Employment and Support Allowance (Miscellaneous Amendments and Transitional and Savings Provision) Regulations</p> <p>Update: modernisation of the General Referral Matching Service</p> <p>Pensions Directorate: centralised process national contact template</p> <p>Update: Right Benefit Initiative</p> <p>LA Subsidy and Discretionary Housing Payment final claims submissions</p> <p>Cases with the Upper Tribunal</p> <p>Statutory Instruments</p> <p>What's new on our HB pages on www.gov.uk</p>	<p>https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/620238/g6-2017.pdf</p>
HB U2/2017	<p>Judicial Review in the case of DA and Others v Secretary of State of the inclusion of lone parents with children aged under two in the benefit cap</p>	<p>https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/621377/u2-2017.pdf</p>

HB U3/2017	Discretionary Housing Payments: Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea Grenfell Tower Fire.	https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/621451/u3-2017.pdf
HB Direct July 177	<p>Editorial</p> <p>Update: Real Time Information rollout</p> <p>RTI awareness aid for LAs</p> <p>Glasscubes</p> <p>Memorandum of Understanding between DWP and LAs</p> <p>LA subsidy workshops</p> <p>Secondment Opportunities: DWP HDD</p>	https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/624343/hb-direct-july-2017-issue-177.pdf
Circular HB S11/2017	Additional New Burdens payments for 2017/18	https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/624830/s11-2017.pdf