

Freedom of Information request 1130/2013

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Information request

May I please ask/clarify your response. From what you're saying, will the documentation show as a breakdown (as an example) ...

Total payment = £300

<Housing Benefit = £200 / Employment & Support Allowance = £100>

Is there an example document you can send me?

DWP response

As I wrote on 28th February (original Q & A reproduced below) Universal Credit will not be 'broken down' according to existing benefits, allowances or tax credits – it will be a single new payment calculated according to the circumstances of the claimant. The calculation claimants receive will explain how their UC payment has been arrived at, which elements they are eligible for and how their earnings or other deductions have affected their payment.

I am afraid that at this time it is not possible to provide you with a finished example of how the calculation will be presented as the products are still in development.

In advance of the introduction of Universal Credit, I would like to understand what information is expected to be given to claimants to confirm their benefit payment amount. I understand claimants will receive an 'Award Notification' letter, but will this be as a 'paper letter' or via some form of electronic verification?

Additionally, would the payment amount be split showing how much is being attributed to the likes of existing 'Child Tax Credits' / 'Working Tax Credits' / 'Housing Benefit' etc separately (eg £100 paid which is £70 CTC and £30 WTC)?

The reason I'm asking is because I work for Lloyds Banking Group and I'm trying to determine the processes and policy for dealing with customers who will be obtaining Universal Credit. As such, we need to be aware of how we may be able to verify any Universal Credit payments.

Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Claimants will receive a notification through the post that explains their Universal Credit payment.

Their notification will explain how their payment has been calculated. It will describe the various elements of Universal Credit they are eligible for (housing, children etc) and how their earnings, other income or deductions then combine to arrive at their monthly payment amount.

The payment calculation will not be “split” according to existing benefits as Universal Credit will have superseded existing benefits and tax credits.