



Department  
for Work &  
Pensions

# Universal Credit Update

October 2019

**UC** *Universal  
Credit*

Opening up work\_

## Current Position with UCFS

September statistics show there are 2,476,697 people on UC.

Scotland	Employed	Not in employment
222,430	31%	69%

## Landlord Portal Update

- ❖ The October Portal enrolment , the first of our quarterly releases will be taking place on 30<sup>th</sup> October and will bring the total number of portal landlords to 770
- ❖ A recent update to the Portal saw the implementation of landlord self- service for user account management
- ❖ We are continuing to test the Bulk Upload functionality we are aiming for a solution that will work alongside claimants declaring their own changes.
- ❖ Alignment of payment of rent with payment of UC award to claimant

## Recent Announcements

### Universal Credit Advances

**We are introducing an additional safeguard to the process of applying for a Universal Credit advance payment online and over the phone**

### Reduction in cap for deductions

**From October 2019 the cap for deductions from benefit has been reduced from 40% to 30% of a claimants standard allowance.**

### Move to UC & SDP

**From 24 July 2019, previous SDP recipients will be considered for backdated payments covering the time since they moved to UC.**

## Move to UC (Managed Migration)

- ❖ Pilot went live in Harrogate on 24 July.
- ❖ Claimants will have at least 3 months to claim UC and we are piloting this approach precisely to learn how we can contact and support people to move to UC without ending their legacy entitlement.
- ❖ The regulations allow for up to 10,000 UC claims awards to be made, after which further legislation will be required. This is a ceiling, not a target; therefore we may complete the pilot with a smaller number of claims
- ❖ The process will be gradual and carefully managed. For at least a year we will refine our processes on a small scale to ensure they are working

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