

Scotland's Housing Network Welfare Reform Forums

East, West & North Events
June 2021

Tony Donohoe, SHN Associate

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Topics for Today

1. SHN Updates (SHN)
2. Universal Credit Update (DWP)
3. Welfare Reform & Social Security in Scotland (Scottish Government)
4. Research Findings: Evaluation of Scottish Choices (Ipsos MORI)
5. Open Forum Discussion

SHN Updates

- Future Forums
- Virtual breakout sessions
- SFHA input

SHN Updates: Some Figures & Sources

- 6 million people in UK on Universal Credit as at 8th April 2021
- In UK, 5,031,336 **households** on Universal Credit as of February 2021
- In Scotland, 417,253 households on Universal Credit as of February 2021 (87% in payment & 13% not in payment)
- Figures for Scottish LA areas include “housing entitlement breakdown” – ie. in Glasgow City 34,584 (62%) receiving housing entitlement & 20,864 (38%) not receiving housing entitlement.
- [Universal Credit: Households \(arcgis.com\)](#)
- [Universal Credit statistics, 29 April 2013 to 8 April 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- [PowerPoint Presentation \(www.gov.scot\)](#) – “Social Security for Scotland: Updated March 2021”, Scottish Government (includes DHPs, UC Scottish Choices etc.)
- Total expenditure 2019/20 = £19.1bn in Scotland (85% on ‘reserved’ benefits and 15% ‘devolved’ benefits)

Breakout Sessions Discussion Points

- Rent increase notification process for 2021/22 – how is it going and any issues?
- Discretionary Housing Payments in Scotland – working well or still room for improvement? (Bedroom Tax, Benefit Cap etc)
- Communication with DWP – what needs to improve? (i.e. Third Party Deductions)
- Landlord Portal – views on developing in terms of landlord access to information?

Future WR Forums 2021/22

Location	Oct/Nov 2021	Feb 2022
East (Edinburgh)	Tuesday 26/10/21	Tuesday 15/02/22
West (Glasgow)	Thursday 28/10/21	Thursday 17/02/22
North (Inverness)	Thursday 02/11/21	Thursday 24/02/22



Scotland's Housing Network

64a Cumberland Street

Edinburgh

EH3 6RE

T: 0131 581 9222

E: info@scotlandshousingnetwork.org

W: www.scotlandshousingnetwork.org

 [@ScotHousingNet](https://twitter.com/ScotHousingNet)

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