

REPORT TO: CABINET

DATE: 13 SEPTEMBER 2018

TITLE: REFERRAL FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –
REVIEW OF UNIVERSAL CREDIT IN HARLOW–
UPDATE REPORT

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This is not a Key Decision

The decision is not subject to Call-in Procedures for the following reason:

The report is for noting only.

This decision will affect no ward specifically.

RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:

- A** Notes the continued operational issues that the transition to Universal Credit is having for the Council and its services during the first 12 months of the live scheme in Harlow and in particular:
- i) Delays in payments being made to housing providers.
 - ii) The increased level of rent arrears.

REASON FOR DECISION

- A** The Scrutiny Committee considered a report on Universal Credit in Harlow at its meeting on 4 September 2018 and asked Cabinet to note specific transitional issues.

BACKGROUND

1. At its meeting on 4 September, the Scrutiny Committee received an update report on the review of Universal Credit and asked questions of Dave Cope, the District Operations Manager for Essex DWP.
2. The Committee has asked Cabinet to note the ongoing operational issues surrounding the transition to Universal Credit to highlight some specific issues.

IMPLICATIONS

Implications of the recommended decision are outlined in the 'Implications' section of the original report, which is attached as Appendix 1.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Original report to the Scrutiny Committee, 'Review of Universal Credit in Harlow – Update Report'

Background Papers

None.

Glossary of terms/abbreviations used

DWP – Department for Work and Pensions