

Opening up work_

Universal Credit Full Service is coming to
Carmarthenshire from the 12th December 2018

Are you in receipt of any of these?

- *Child Tax Credit*
- *Housing Benefit*
- *Income Support*
- *Working Tax Credit*
- *Income based Jobseekers Allowance*
- *Income-related Employment and Support Allowance*

***Anyone making a new claim for one of the above benefits
after this date will be required to claim Universal Credit.***

Don't panic...

**If you are currently getting one or more of the benefits listed,
you will not be affected straight away.**

The DWP will let you know when and how to claim Universal Credit.

Universal Credit is Coming...

Are you ready?

Universal Credit will replace:

- Income based Jobseekers Allowance
- Housing Benefit
- Working Tax Credit
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- Child Tax Credit

From 12th December Carmarthenshire Residents making a new claim to one or more of the six benefits listed will be required to make a claim for Universal Credit.

Pension Credit and Personal Independent Payment (PIP) are not affected by Universal Credit.

Paying your rent...

Once you make a claim for Universal Credit your Housing Benefit will stop and you will need to claim the Housing Cost Element as part of your Universal Credit claim. This will be paid directly to you and you must use this money to pay your rent. Failure to do so may cause you to lose your home.

Some tenants may be eligible to have rent paid directly to their landlord. Please speak to your Jobcentre.

If you are a tenant of Carmarthenshire County Council, please speak to your Housing Officer and advise them that you have claimed Universal Credit

Tel: 01267 234567

Rent Matters



If you need help with money before you receive your first payment, you can request an Advance. This is an interest free loan. Deductions are made from your monthly Universal Credit Payment.

You will have up to 12 months to repay the Advance.

In some instances you can be paid every two weeks or have your payment split.

Your Claimant Commitment

You will have to accept a 'claimant commitment' if you want to get Universal Credit. This is a tailored contract that details the steps you will take to prepare and look for work.



Banking

Universal Credit will be paid into a bank account

Set one up or use the one you have.



Online

All claims are managed online, so you need to know where you can access the internet and you will need an e-mail account.



Budgeting

You need to plan your budget. Universal Credit is paid **monthly** rather than weekly or fortnightly. Please ask at your Jobcentre what support is available.

How you will be paid

Universal Credit will be paid once a month, into your bank / building society account

If you live with a partner and you both claim Universal Credit you'll receive a single payment that covers you both.

Council Tax Reduction

If you apply for Universal Credit, your Universal Credit payment includes a payment of your rent (housing costs), but does not include Council Tax Reduction. The application form can be found on the Carmarthenshire County Council website, for information contact:

01554 742100 or **hb@carmarthenshire.gov.uk**

To claim go to: www.gov.uk/universal-credit
Universal Credit helpline – 0800 328 5644

or contact via your journal or visiting your local Jobcentre Plus office.

Claim Checklist

Before you can complete your Universal Credit Claim online, you will need all of the following details:

- ✓ Your bank or building society account details (call the Universal Credit helpline if you do not have one)
- ✓ An email address
- ✓ Your National Insurance number
- ✓ Information about your housing, for example how much rent you pay
- ✓ Details of your income, for example payslips
- ✓ Details of savings and any investments, like shares or a property that you rent out
- ✓ Details of how much you pay for childcare if you're applying for help with childcare costs

You also have to verify your identity online.

You'll need some proof of identity for this, for example your:

- ✓ Driving licence
- ✓ Passport
- ✓ Debit or credit card

What support Carmarthenshire County Council will offer their residents...

Access to Wi-Fi and computers available in the following...

Llanelli Library - 01554 744327

Carmarthen Library - 01267 244824

Ammanford Library - 01269 598360

Monday & Thursday: 9am – 7pm

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 9am – 6pm

Saturday: 9am – 5pm

If you're not a member remember your ID (proof of address e.g. driving licence or utility bill) to join for free.

Hwb Llanelli

01267 234567

Monday - Thursday: 9am – 5pm

Friday: 9am – 4pm

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