

External Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on 21 January 2020

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Learning lessons from lived experiences of Universal Credit (Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

Lisa Scullion, Professor of Social Policy at the University of Salford will attend the meeting to deliver the presentation set out at appendix A.

Recommendation

The External Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

1. Receive the presentation as part of its continuing review of Universal Credit.
2. Formulate key lines of enquiry in preparation for when it hears evidence from the Welfare Rights Service at a future meeting.

Background and Advice

The External Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 5 March 2019 received a rapporteur report from County Councillor Gillian Oliver on Universal Credit following a bite size briefing delivered by the Welfare Rights Service Manager. It was agreed that the committee should undertake a review on the roll out of Universal Credit across Lancashire.

Lisa Scullion, Professor of Social Policy at the University of Salford will attend the meeting to deliver a presentation on learning lessons from lived experiences of Universal Credit.

Professor Scullion was involved in a collaborative five year study focusing on the impact of welfare conditionality, which included a specific focus on experiences of Universal Credit. The findings from this research are available from the Welfare Conditionality website¹. Research on veterans' experiences within the social security

¹ Final findings: Universal Credit (May 2018) - <http://www.welfareconditionality.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/40414-Universal-Credit-web.pdf>

system which Professor Scullion was involved in is also available from the Forces in Mind Trust website².

The External Scrutiny Committee is asked to receive the presentation as part of its continuing review of Universal Credit and to formulate key lines of enquiry in preparation for when it hears evidence from the Welfare Rights Service at a future meeting.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

The presentation set out at appendix A represents the views of Professor Lisa Scullion and are not those of Lancashire County Council.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
None		
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
N/A		

² Sanctions, Support and Service Leavers: Final report (June 2019) - <https://www.fim-trust.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/20190610-FiMT-Final-Report-WEB.pdf>