

A One Day National Conference

Welfare Reform

Monday 27th January 2014 - Central London



Chair: Katie Shaw Head of Welfare Policy Citizens Advice

Speakers include:

Lord David Freud

Minister for Welfare Reform

Department for Work and Pensions

Christine Goodfellow

Personal Independence Payment and Benefit Delivery Programme Director Department for Work and Pensions

Graham Cadle

Director of Customer, Transformation and Communication Services Croydon Council

Alison McKenzie-Folan

Director Customer Transformation **Wigan Council**

Sinead Butters Chief Executive

Aspire Housing

Gerri Scott

Strategic Director of Housing and Community Services

Southwark Council

Steve Swan

Director of Welfare to Work

Tomorrow's People

Contributors









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About the Event

Our well established **Welfare Reform Conference** takes place at a crucial time as we are entering the next stage of the transition to the new the benefit system.

A number of key provisions from the Welfare Reform Act are now in place, including the introduction of the under occupation of social housing regulation and the benefit cap, reform of the Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and progress of the Universal Credit Pathfinders. The Government has now made plans to roll out the next stage of reform, focussing on cultural shift, improved access to digital services and expansion of the Universal Credit Pathfinders.

With our trailblazing line up of **speakers from the pilots and pathfinders**, you will get up to date information, practical guidance and the opportunity to question face to face those at the forefront of delivering welfare reform.

Key issues to be addressed at this timely conference include:

- Update on the further roll out of the welfare reform agenda
- Developing models for the Local Support Services Framework and improving partnership working
- Mitigating the impacts of the benefit cap and under occupation penalty
- Delivering the Personal Independence Payment (PIP) assessment

Attend to ensure that you make necessary preparations for the fast approaching full implementation of the changes.

Benefits of Attending

- Receive an update on how the reform is progressing and the rollout of the next stage
- Hear from one of the first Universal Credit Pathfinder areas to tackle challenges early and better prepare for the full transition
- Learn how to establish an effective partnership with your local delivery partners to support claimants with complex needs
- Gain insight from the Personal Independence Payment Implementation Programme Team on the national roll out of PIP

- Discover how a local authority is supporting their residents through the benefit cap changes
- Take away practical advice on how to support claimants affected by the under occupation penalty through discretionary housing payments
- Explore initial findings from one of the 'Digital Deal' projects on improving digital inclusion amongst claimants



Who Should Attend

Representatives from Local Authorities, Housing Providers, Community Sector and Health and Social Care and Private and Voluntary Sectors including:

- Chief Executives and Senior Management Teams
- Councillors and Council Leaders
- Welfare, Revenues and Benefits Teams
- Employment Development Teams
- Financial Inclusion Teams
- Income Management Teams
- Customer Service Teams
- · Rent Management Teams
- Regeneration and Housing Teams
- Supported Housing Teams
- Supporting People Teams
- Housing Advice and Options Teams
- Disability Partnerships
- Equality and Diversity Teams
- Access and Inclusion Teams

Forthcoming Events

Housing Chief Executives Forum – Thursday 28th November – Central London

Supported Housing – Monday 2nd December – Central London

Tackling Child Poverty – Monday 9th December – Central London

Sponsorship and Exhibition Opportunities

We offer a range of flexible packages which offer your organisation a platform to network and communicate with key organisations in the public sector.

For further information please contact Matt Turton on 020 7960 7717 or email matt.turton@capita.co.uk

09.20 Registration Tea and Coffee

09.50 Chair's Opening Remarks

Katie Shaw, Head of Welfare Policy, Citizens Advice

Ministerial Address

10.00 Update on Welfare Reform

Lord David Freud, Minister for Welfare Reform **Department for Work and Pensions**

10.20 Questions and Discussion

Lessons Learnt from Pilots

10.30 Implementation of Universal Credit

• Identifying main issues and testing more complex processes Alison McKenzie-Folan, Director Customer Transformation Wigan Council

One of the four Universal Credit Pathfinder Councils

11.00 Mitigating the Impacts of the Benefit Cap

 Providing support on budgeting and sustaining tenancies Graham Cadle, Director of Customer, Transformation and Communication Services, Croydon Council One of the first local authorities which implemented the Benefit Cap

11.30 Session Questions and Discussion

11.40 Networking Tea and Coffee Break

12.10 Promoting Digital Inclusion

- Lessons learnt from the 'Digital Deal' pilot
- Bringing the latest technology and community groups together to break the digital barrier

Fiona Cornell, Deputy Executive Director, **A2Dominion** *One of twelve 'Digital Deal' Projects*

12.30 Questions and Discussion

12.40 Utilising the Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP)

- Cost subsidising vs DHP
- Social fund: supporting those in greatest need

Gerri Scott, Strategic Director of Housing and Community Services, **Southwark Council**

One of the six Direct Payments Demonstration Projects

13.00 Creating Effective Local Delivery Partnerships

- Supporting claimants who have complex needs to help them make and manage their Universal Credit claims and prepare for work
- Developing a model for the Local Support Services Framework

Peter Gadsdon, Head of Customer Insight and Service Design **Lewisham Council**

One of Local Authority led Universal Credit Pilot

13.20 Session Questions and Discussion

13.30 Networking Lunch

Delegates Choose Either Stream A or Stream B

Stream A: Disability Benefit Reform

14.30 Delivering Personal Independence Payment

- Lessons learned from PIP implementation
- Preparing for reassessment of all existing DLA claimants in 2015

Christine Goodfellow, PIP and Benefit Delivery Programme Director, **Department for Work and Pensions**

14.55 Personal Independence Payment Assessment

Update on PIP assessment

Dr Stephen Duckworth OBE, Chief Executive, Personal Independence Payments, **Capita** and **Gary Gear**, Client Executive for PIP, **Atos Healthcare**

15.20 Session Questions and Discussion

15.30 Meeting the Needs of Jobseekers with Disabilities or Disadvantages

- Delivering specialised initiatives to support the most vulnerable
- Equipping claimants with the right skills and promoting selfesteem and self-awareness
- Working with employers to meet both their needs and those of jobseekers with disabilities
- What will Work Programme 2 look like?

David Martin, Director of Strategy and Marketing **Papworth Trust**

15.50 Questions and Discussion

16.00 Chair's Closing Remarks and Close of Conference

Stream B: Improving Access to Employment

14.30 Delivering the Claimant Commitment

- Supporting 'cultural transformation' that the new system brings
- Early lessons from the in-work conditionality pilot
- Encouraging claimants to progress to work
- Enhancing jobsearch support nationally

Stuart Bennett, District Manager **Department for Work and Pensions**

14.50 Questions and Discussion

15.00 The Role of Housing in Improving Access to Work

- Delivering enhanced employment and skills interventions to tenants
- Achieving social and financial return on investment Sinead Butters, Chief Executive, Aspire Housing

15.20 Questions and Discussion

15.30 Supporting Vulnerable and Disadvantaged Groups into the Job Market

- Reaching the most disadvantaged long-term unemployed people
- The importance of accurate assessment of level of need
- Developing approaches to intensive employment support
 Steve Swan, Director of Welfare to Work, Tomorrow's People

15.50 Questions and Discussion

16.00 Chair's Closing Remarks and Close of Conference



Booking Form

Welfare Reform

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