



Department
for Work &
Pensions

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Sent electronically

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Dear Sir Geoffrey

Update on DWP's response to the judgment in TP3 (Judicial Review: TP/AR3 and AB&F v SSWP)

At the Public Account Committee hearing on the 5 December 2024, I committed to write back to you once discussions had concluded following the judicial review into the management of transitional protection for a specific group of Universal Credit (UC) claimants. This followed a query from Anna Dixon MP at the hearing (Q50).

This relates to the additional transitional protection for those claimants who have already moved to UC and where previously receiving the Severe Disability Premium (SDP) and / or the Enhanced Disability Premium and / or the Disability Premium and / or were receiving an amount for a disabled child / child.

We have started the process of making payments. This is a complex process and calculation, and we want to ensure that this is working smoothly before expanding the payments to larger number of claimants. We also recognise that this will be more complex for some people than others, so we have started with those that have had their SDP transitional element paid entirely on the Universal Credit system, before expanding to other groups. This approach is consistent with how we have delivered other complex processes within Universal Credit as it protects claimants as well as the safe administration of Universal Credit.

The delivery of the payments has been split into three groups. We have started with the first group, made up of those that had their SDP transitional element paid purely by the Universal Credit system. This is by far the biggest group comprising of approximately 35,000 cases.

We are now moving onto the next two groups, impacting learning from Group 1 and ensuring the necessary functionality is complete in the system. The second group includes those that received a manual SDP transitional payment which was then converted to a SDP transitional element and paid via the Universal Credit system (from Oct 2020 onwards), this group includes approximately 15,000 cases. The third and

final group is the most complex, comprising of approximately 7,000 cases, who were receiving either a manual SDP transitional payment and/or online SDP transitional element and their Universal Credit claim has since closed. When the second group is cleared, we will work on designing a process for these cases.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Couling', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Neil Couling
Universal Credit, Senior Responsible Owner