

**Member Motion: Call on Government to retain the £20 per week Universal Credit Uplift, as proposed by Councillor Khan and seconded by Councillor Caton - Full Council, 5 October 2021**

This Council recognises the positive impact of the £20 uplift on Universal Credit implemented in April 2020.

It is now increasingly likely that the Government will withdraw the £20 Universal credit uplift meaning many families in Uttlesford are potentially facing a loss of £1,040 a year to their incomes overnight.

Official statistics from the Local Government Association indicate that 4,806 people were claiming Universal Credit in Uttlesford in August 2021. 2,078 were in employment.

At the end of the month, two of the major protections to protect household finances in Uttlesford during the pandemic are scheduled to end. These are:

The Job Retention Scheme and the £20 a week increase in Universal Credit. October will also see a 12% rise in the maximum amount energy providers can charge which will see people having to pay more to heat their homes.

Therefore:

- I. The Council calls on the UK government to help families in Uttlesford by retaining the £20 uplift.
- II. The Council agrees to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and our MP Kemi Badenoch, who is now a Minister in the Department for Levelling Up, requesting they retain the £20 uplift on Universal Credit. This will send a clear message to our residents following the pandemic which has resulted in acute financial pressures, job losses and increased debt, that we believe in fairness.

**Motion put forward by Cllr Khan, Liberal Democrat Cllr for Stansted South and Birchanger and seconded by Cllr Melvin Caton, Liberal Democrat Party.**

Supported by:

Cllr Geoffrey Sell, Liberal Democrat Party

Cllr Janice Loughlin, Liberal Democrat Party

Cllr Alan Dean, Liberal Democrat Party

Cllr Petrina Lees, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr John Lodge, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Barbara Light, Green Party

Cllr Paul Fairhurst, Green Party

Cllr Vere Isham, Green Party

Cllr Richard Pavitt, Uttlesford Independent

Cllr Neil Gregory, Uttlesford Independent

Cllr Alex Armstrong, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Heather Asker, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Arthur Coote, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Colin Day, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Geof Driscoll, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr James de Vries, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Judy Emanuel, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr John Evans, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Martin Foley, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Richard Freeman, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Neil Hargreaves, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Patrick Lavelle, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Garry LeCount, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Sandi Merrifield, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Louise Pepper, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Neil Reeve, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Maggie Sutton, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Mike Tayler, Residents for Uttlesford

Cllr Geoff Bagnall, Residents for Uttlesford