

WELFARE REFORMS DIRECT IMPACTS IN SOUTHAMPTON: Key Changes from April 2013

Change	Description	From	Group	Number of Claimants/ Households Affected	Comment
Social Sector Size Criteria	Households assessed to be under-occupying will have entitlement reduced by 14% or 25% (one or two bedrooms).	April 2013	Social Tenants	Estimated 1500+ Council Tenants	Awaiting information.
Overall Benefit Cap	Max £500 per week - family Max £350 per week – single person (includes housing costs and will be applied through reductions in Housing Benefit until Universal Credit is Introduced.	April 2013	All households whose in benefit income is above the threshold.	Over 200 Households Tenure: 51 Council Tenants 29 Housing Association Tenants 25 Private Sector Biggest Council Tenant Loss: Housing Benefit (HB) will be going from £122.98 down to 50p Biggest Housing Association Loss: HB will go from £149.36 down to £5.50. (Being queried). Biggest Private Rented Accommodation Loss: HB will reduce from £242.31 down to 50p. A loss of £241.81 Wards with the highest number of households affected are : Bevois 25 Millbrook 23 Shirley 22 Bargate has the least number of households affected with 3.	<u>Council Tenants potential loss per week</u> Between £0.01 and £10 = 6 claims Between £10 and £25 = 9 claims Between £25 and £50 = 14 claims Between £50 and £75 = 4 claims Between £75 and £100 = 16 claims Over £100 a week = 2 claims <u>Housing Associations potential loss per week</u> Between £0.01 and £10 = 3 claims Between £10 and £25 = 5 claims Between £25 and £50 = 6 claims Between £50 and £75 = 5 claims Between £75 and £100 = 3 claims Over £100 a week = 7 claims <u>Private Rented Sector potential loss per week</u> Between £0.01 and £10 = 8 claims Between £10 and £25 = 12 claims Between £25 and £50 = 36 claims Between £50 and £75 = 7 claims Between £75 and £100 = 18 claims Over £100 a week = 44 claims
Social Fund	Localisation of the of	April 2013	All local residents	In 2011/12, the following were	Average Award for

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	the discretionary elements of the Social Fund - Crisis Loans and Community Care Grants			awarded to residents in Southampton: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 820 Community Care Grants • 4430 Crisis Loans This support will no longer be available from April 2013.	Community Care Grants £400 Average Award Crisis Loan £50
Council Tax Benefit	Localisation of Council Tax Benefit.	April 2013	Working age claimants of Council Tax Support	15,018	Average household affect will have to find £3.67 per week.
DLA to PIP	Reform of Disability Living Allowance and transfer of claimants to Personal Independence Payment (PIP).	From June 2013	Claimants of Disability Living Allowance	11,970 (claimant count November 2011)	Based on the Government's impact assessment there will be a 20% reduction in the number of claimants.
Incapacity Benefit	People receiving incapacity related benefits will be reassessed for eligibility to Employment Support Allowance (ESA). Time limiting ESA Work Related Activity Group to 365 days.	Ongoing to Spring 2014 May 2012	Claimant of incapacity related benefits and ESA	10, 010 (claimant count February 2012)	Based on the Government's impact assessment there will be a 15% reduction in the number of claimants.
Universal Credit	Introduction of Universal Credit (replacing means tested benefits)	From October 2013	Benefit and tax credit claimants	All claimants of tax and benefits (in work and out of work).	Timetable and transition to Universal Credit will take a phased approach.