

# Welfare Reform Forum

**East Event (Edinburgh)**

**18<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

**Tony Donohoe, SHN**

# Topics for Today

1. SHN Updates (SHN)
2. Universal Credit Implementation (DWP)
3. SFHA Updates on Welfare Reform (SFHA)
4. UC 'Full Service' Implementation (East Lothian Council)
5. UC – Working with JCP & Planning (South Lanarkshire Council)

# Topics for Today

## 6. Practice Exchange & Other Issues:

- UC & Rental Income Project
- Supported Housing Consultation
- Housing Cost Payments to Landlords

# SHN Updates

- DHPs:
  - 2017/18 minimal changes (DWP guidance)
  - SG note on Bedroom Tax & statistical returns
  - Review of DHP guidance (from March 2017)
- Scottish Universal Credit Flexibilities Consultation (closes 13/03/2017):

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/low-income-benefits/universal-credit-claims-and-payments/>

- DWP Supported Housing Consultation

# SHN Updates

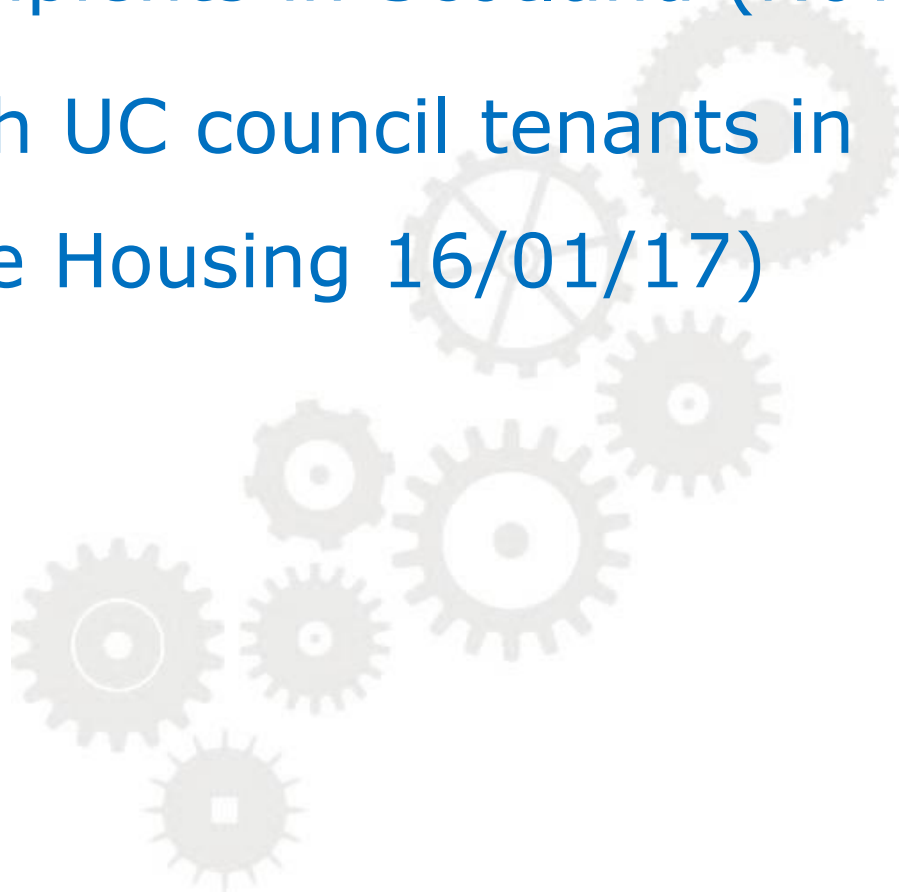
- Effect of DWP policies on Low Income Households Parliamentary Debate:

<http://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/CDP-2017-0013#fullreport>

- WR & Rental Income Project

# Statistics 'for the day'

- 42,245 UC recipients in Scotland (Nov 16)
- 86% of English UC council tenants in arrears (Inside Housing 16/01/17)



# Funding for Supported Housing Consultation

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/funding-for-supported-housing>. The GOV.UK header includes a search bar and navigation links: Departments, Worldwide, How government works, Get involved, Policies, Publications, Consultations, Statistics, and Announcements. The main content area features the title 'Open consultation Funding for supported housing' and metadata: 'From: Department for Communities and Local Government and Department for Work and Pensions', 'First published: 21 November 2016', and 'Part of: Welfare reform and Housing for older and vulnerable people'. A blue box highlights the closing date: 'This consultation closes on 13 February 2017 12:00am' and a 'Summary' section: 'Consultation on the detail of the future funding model for supported housing from April 2019.' Below this is a 'Documents' section with a thumbnail of the consultation document and a link to 'Funding for supported housing' with reference numbers: 'Ref: ISBN 978-1-4098-4942-1 PDF 938KB 24 pages'.

# Funding for Supported Housing Consultation

- Views on housing cost funding model for supported accommodation
- Already deferred application of LHA rates to 2019/20
- In England devolved 'top up' model proposed
- In Scotland funding will be devolved to Scottish Government
- Supported housing definition covers general and sheltered
- From 2019/20 – UC housing cost or HB funded up to LHA rate (shared accommodation rate not to apply)



# Forthcoming Forum Dates

- Edinburgh – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017
- Glasgow – Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017
- Inverness – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017

