UNIVERSAL CREDIT UPLIFT

Council:

- Notes the decision by the UK Government to withdraw the £20 per week uplift, cutting £1,040 per year from recipients of Universal Credit and Working Tax Credit, directly impacting around 7,000 families in Angus, including many of the most vulnerable;
- Notes that the cut will disproportionately affect families with children, particularly single parent families and families where someone is disabled;
- Notes analysis by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation that the combined effect of the cut in Universal Credit, the recent National Insurance rise and increases in energy prices and living costs, could leave a typical low-income family up to £1,750 per year worse-off;
- Acknowledges the additional demands and pressures on council services such as the Welfare Rights team as well as local 3rd sector organisations including Angus CAB, whose service users are already under severe financial pressure.
- Endorses the cross-party vote in the Scottish Parliament on 28th September, adds our
 voice to those of the Governments of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and joins
 the more than 100 organisations, including JRF, Child Poverty Action Group, Citizens
 Advice Scotland, Crisis, One Parent Families Scotland, The Poverty Alliance, and the
 Robertson Trust in condemning the cut as an attack on those most in need;
- Instructs the Chief Executive to write to the UK Government and the Secretary of State for Scotland in the terms of this motion, setting out the impact of the cut on the residents of Angus and calling on it to be reversed, and invites members to add their signatures.