

A One Day National Conference

Welfare Reform Scotland

Wednesday 27th March 2013 – Edinburgh



Chair: Yvonne MacDermid
Chief Executive
Money Advice Scotland

Speakers Include:

Rt. Hon Iain Duncan Smith MP
Secretary of State for Work and
Pensions

Margaret Burgess MSP
Minister for Housing and Welfare
The Scottish Government

Karen Foulds
Deputy Director, Personal Independence
Payment Implementation Programme
Department for Work and Pensions

David Dorward
Chief Executive
Dundee City Council

Ewen Allardyce
Chief Executive
North East Scotland Credit Union

Richard Hamer
Director of External Affairs
Capability Scotland

John Kane
Head of Early Years Business Support and
Vocational Education
Glasgow City Council

Contributors



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About the Event

The UK Welfare Reform Act 2012 introduces **momentous changes to the welfare system**. From April 2013 there will be a **significant impact on devolved services** with the introduction of Universal Credit and direct payment arrangements. **Our Welfare Reform Scotland Conference** is perfectly timed to provide a strategic update on the imminent changes and gives practical guidance on how to **protect the vulnerable and support people through the transition**.

Expert speakers address key issues including:

- Transferring to the new **Universal Credit** system
- Protecting vulnerable groups including **disabled people and disadvantaged families**
- Achieving '**digital by default**' and helping claimants access services online
- Creating **employment and training opportunities** to get people into work
- Delivering **Scottish passported benefits** and accessing the **Scottish Community Support Fund**

Attend this crucial event to ensure you are **ready and fully up to date on the latest policy** developments regarding Welfare Reform. Take this opportunity to hear from senior policy makers, network with peers and share best practice on **early intervention strategies** to help **reduce benefit dependency and prevent poverty**.

Benefits of Attending

- Hear from the **Secretary of State for Work and Pensions** and the **Scottish Government** on delivering welfare reform
- Take away best practice from two **council-led pilot projects** helping mitigate the impact of the UK Government's welfare reforms
- Understand the **timeline for Universal Credit** and what you should be doing to support claimants during the transition
- Learn how to manage the **move from Disability Living Allowance to Personal Independence Payments (PIP)**
- Examine how **credit unions are improving financial inclusion** by providing products and services to help claimants better manage their finances
- Discover how **local authorities** are supporting claimants through the new processes by **providing advice and guidance**
- Benefit from **early intervention approaches** to helping **prevent poverty and unemployment** by providing **access to jobs and training to help people get back into work**



Who Should Attend

Representatives from the Public, Private and Voluntary Sectors including:

- Welfare and Benefits Teams
- Employment and Training Teams
- Housing and Community Safety Teams
- Economic Development and Regeneration Teams
- Social Inclusion Teams
- Social Care Teams
- Housing Providers
- Employment and Skills Providers
- Health Providers
- Citizens Advice Bureaux
- Disability Charities
- Colleges
- Jobcentre Plus

Forthcoming Events

Post-16 Reform Scotland – Tuesday 19th March – Edinburgh

Channel Shift in the Scottish Public Sector – Thursday 21st March – Edinburgh

Self-Directed Support Scotland – Friday 31st May – Edinburgh

Sponsorship and Exhibition Opportunities

We offer a range of flexible packages which offer your organisation a platform to network and communicate with key organisations in the public sector.

For further information please contact Matt Turton on 0207 960 7717 or email matt.turton@capita.co.uk

09.20 Registration Tea and Coffee

09.50 Chair's Opening Remarks

Yvonne MacDermid

Chief Executive

Money Advice Scotland

Ministerial Keynote Addresses

10.00 Delivering Welfare Reform, Transforming Lives

Rt. Hon Iain Duncan Smith MP

Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

10.20 Questions and Discussion

10.30 Welfare Reform in Scotland

- Responding to the challenges ahead
- Creating new opportunities for a prosperous Scotland
- Scottish Community Support Fund

Margaret Burgess MSP

Minister for Housing and Welfare

The Scottish Government

10.50 Questions and Discussion

11.00 Progress Update: Delivering and Implementing Universal Credit

- Timeline for Universal Credit (UC) implementation
- Achieving 'digital by default'
- How are local authorities supporting the move to UC?
- New pathfinder plans

Confirmed Representative

Department for Work and Pensions

11.20 Questions and Discussion

11.30 Networking Tea and Coffee Break

Direct Payments and Improving Financial Inclusion

12.00 Supporting Claimants Through the New Process

- Encouraging claimants to build online skills to claim Universal Credit digitally
- Helping individuals and families navigate the Universal Credit system
- Improving the financial management capabilities of residents

Susan Donald, Benefits Manager

Aberdeenshire Council

The Scottish Government has awarded £13,000 to Aberdeenshire Council for a pilot project to improve access to online services for financially disadvantaged residents, to help enable benefit claimants adjust to the introduction of Universal Credit

12.20 Financial Inclusion: Preparing for Universal Credit

- The role of banks and credit unions in supporting bill paying
- Financial products and services available to help claimants manage their finances

Ewen Allardyce

Chief Executive

North East Scotland Credit Union

12.50 Session Questions and Discussion

Protecting the Most Vulnerable

13.00 Implementing Personal Independence Payments

- The claimant journey: making a new claim; the claims and assessment process; making and notifying decisions; award durations and reviews; disputes process
- Key features of the reassessment process and implications for current DLA claimants age 16-64

Karen Foulds

Deputy Director, Personal Independence Payment

Implementation Programme

Department for Work and Pensions

13.20 Questions and Discussion

13.30 Networking Lunch

14.30 Moving to Personal Independence Payments

- Managing the transition to the new benefits system
- Working with partners to alleviate negative impacts
- Delivering Scottish passported benefits

Richard Hamer, Director of External Affairs

Capability Scotland

14.50 Questions and Discussion

15.00 Communicating the Changes, Providing Advice and Delivering Preventative Approaches to Help Those At Risk

- Raising awareness and engaging the community to ensure a smooth transition
- Removing the barriers to participation through an integrated welfare advice, concessions and financial inclusion strategy
- Ensuring that individuals can access and manage their Universal Credit applications and change of circumstances
- A joined up approach to helping those at risk of unmanageable debt and homelessness

David Dorward, Chief Executive

Dundee City Council

One of the three council-led pilot projects funded by Scottish Government to assist local authorities in identifying ways to tailor services to support benefit claimants in the journey to Universal Credit

15.20 Questions and Discussion

15.30 Improving Access to Employability Services and Training

- Creating employment and training opportunities locally
- Investing in early intervention approaches to tackle poverty and unemployment

John Kane

Head of Early Years Business Support and Vocational Education

Glasgow City Council

15.50 Questions and Discussion

16.00 Chair's Closing Remarks and Close of Conference



Booking Form

Welfare Reform Scotland

Wednesday 27th March 2013 – Edinburgh

BOOKING SOURCE CODE: EMOSC

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Address
Postcode

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Job Title	
Organisation	
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Forename	
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Dietary/Access requirements	


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**Discounts cannot be combined*

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