

# Universal Credit Newsletter



TRAFFORD  
COUNCIL

You may have already heard that on the 19 July the DWP will be expanding Universal Credit across Trafford. The expansion will see new claims for people who are on a low income or out of work being directed towards a Universal Credit claim where appropriate. You can find out more by logging on to the DWP website [www.gov.uk/universal-credit](http://www.gov.uk/universal-credit)

If you can't claim Universal Credit yet, but think you might need to in the future, the [Universal Credit Personal Planner](#) can help you to get prepared, and offers advice about:

- Getting online to make a claim for Universal Credit
- Setting up a bank account
- Budgeting and managing your money on your own or as part of a couple
- Paying rent to your landlord yourself

## What's new about Universal Credit?

Universal Credit works differently from the [benefits it replaces](#). Here are the differences you need to be ready for before making a claim:

- Most people will be paid Universal Credit once a month direct to their chosen account
- You'll get a single payment for your household
- If your Universal Credit includes rent you'll need to pay this to your landlord yourself
- You'll be expected to make & manage your claim online

## Have you claimed for support towards your Council Tax bill?

Don't pay more than you have to....Get help with your Council Tax bill by claiming Council Tax Support.

- Universal Credit **does not** help to pay your Council Tax bill. You must claim Council Tax Support directly from Trafford Council.
- The quickest way is for you to make a claim online at [www.trafford.gov.uk/cts](http://www.trafford.gov.uk/cts)
- Council Tax Support cannot be backdated. If you don't claim straight away your Council Tax bill cannot be reduced. Claim today, even if your Universal Credit hasn't been awarded yet.
- Access to computer facilities and free Wi-Fi is available at your local Trafford library. Our friendly staff will help you to make an online application for Council Tax Support.
- If you are having trouble claiming online or travelling to the library, call **0161 912 2220** for further help.



## Where can I use a computer?

Free Computer and WiFi access is available at local Libraries. A map of all public computer points and resources in Trafford is available online at [www.infotrafford.org.uk/computeraccesswithdemographics](http://www.infotrafford.org.uk/computeraccesswithdemographics) or call 0161-912-2000 for further details.