

Voluntary and Community Sector  
Annual Assembly 2013

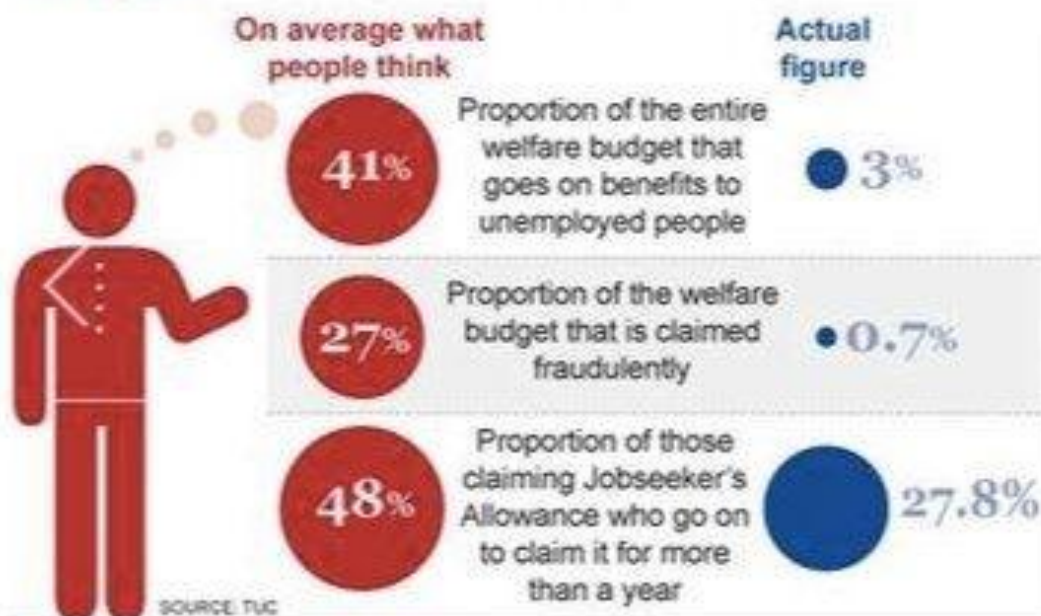


# OVERVIEW OF WELFARE REFORM



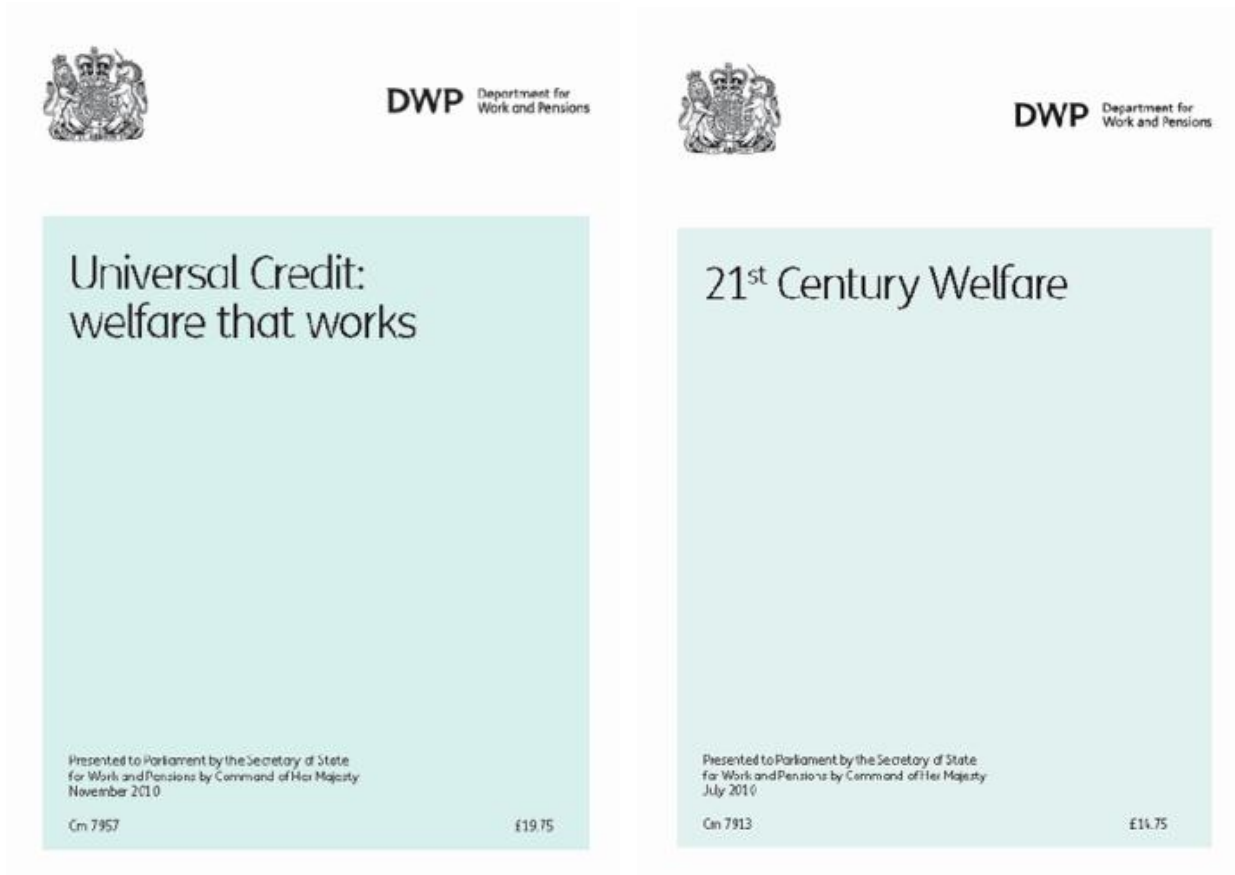
# Welfare: Myths vs Reality

## TUC poll Misconceptions about welfare

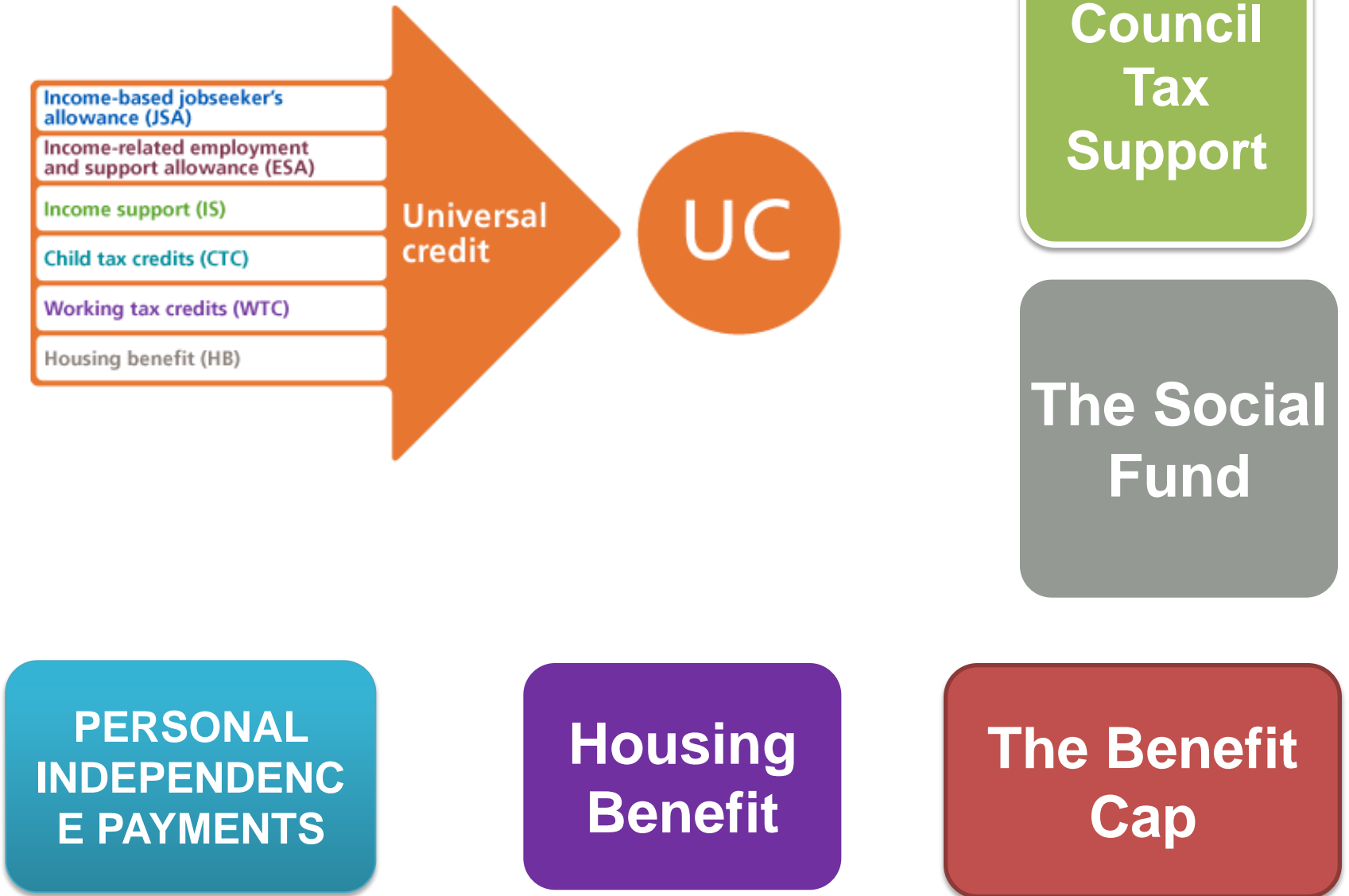


On average people think that an unemployed couple with two school-age children would get **£147** in Jobseeker's Allowance – more than 30 per cent higher than the **£111.45** they would actually receive – a **£35** over-calculation

# Overview of Welfare Reform



# Overview of Welfare Reform



Income-based jobseeker's allowance (JSA)

Income-related employment and support allowance (ESA)

Income support (IS)

Child tax credits (CTC)

Working tax credits (WTC)

Housing benefit (HB)

Universal credit

UC

Council Tax Support

The Social Fund

PERSONAL INDEPENDENCE PAYMENTS

Housing Benefit

The Benefit Cap

## Changes already taken Place



**Council Tax Support**

Changes already taken Place



# The Social Fund

# Changes already taken Place



**The Benefit  
Cap**

**Housing Benefit**

Pathfinder areas 8th April - rest of the  
country 10th June 2013.



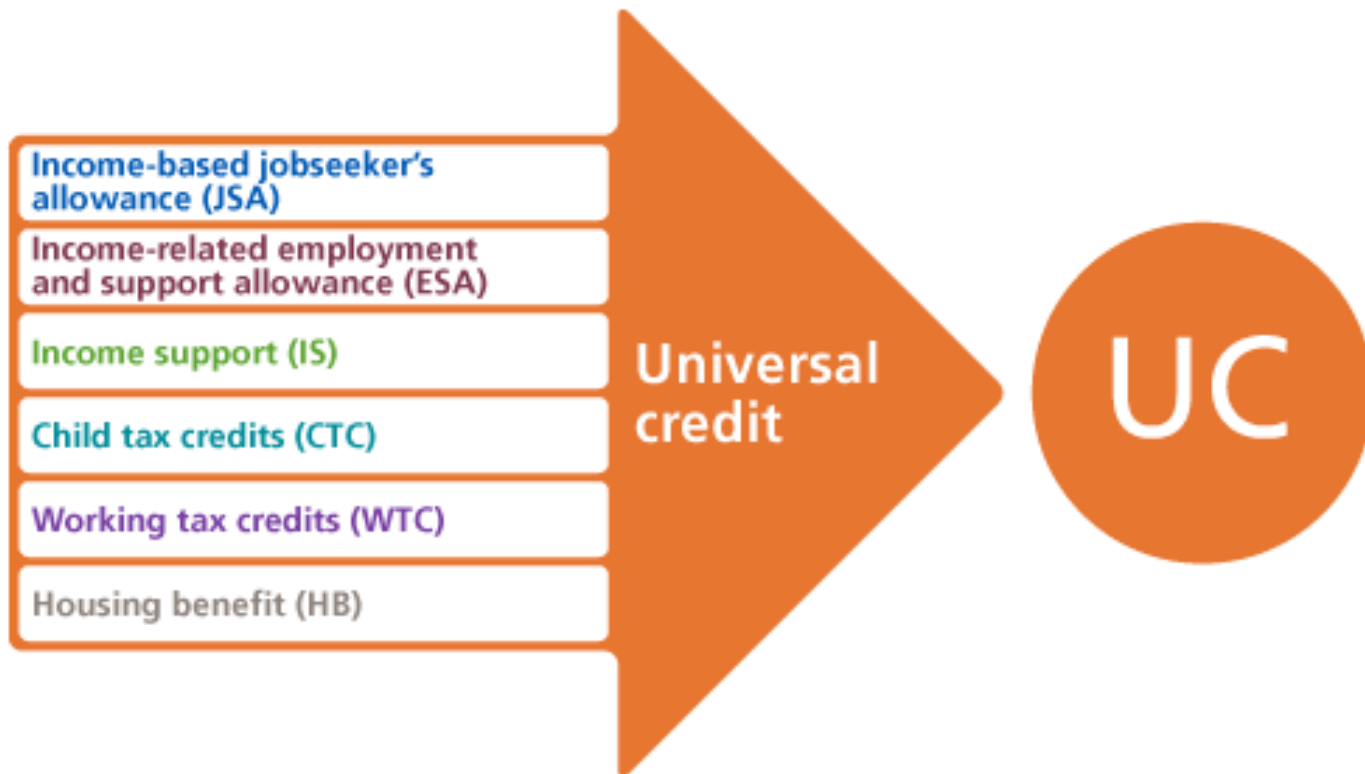
# PERSONAL INDEPENDENCE PAYMENTS



# 2013



# October 2013



# What is universal credit?



Universal Credit introduced for new claims

Replacing:

- ✗ • Income support
- ✗ • Working tax credit
- ✗ • Housing benefit
- ✗ • Income related ESA
- ✗ • Income based JSA
- ✗ • Child tax credit



# What is universal credit?



Universal Credit introduced for new claims

- Lone parent
- Sick
- Disabled
- Carer
- Unemployed
- In low paid employment

# Universal Credit features

the charity for  
your community



- A single payment for claimants including children and housing costs.
- One taper on income
- No rules about hours worked.
- No need to report changes in earnings



2017

2014

2015

2016

2018

2020

# The social policy implications of the changes



**Medical assessments for PIP**

**No automatic transition for PIP**

**20% reduction in budget**

**No money for social fund**

**Monthly payments of benefit**

# The social policy implications of the changes



**Local  
assessment  
framework**

**Tougher  
sanctions**

**Digital  
agenda**

**Transition  
changes  
go on till  
2017**

**Bedroom  
tax**

**Some  
details not  
agreed**



## Shropshire VCSA - Social Policy Survey Form

**\* 1. Agency name**

**2. Client reference or case number (for agency internal use and cross reference only)**

**\* 3. Date**

DD MM YYYY

Please enter date in  
dd/mm/yyyy format

/  /

**\* 4. Please describe the client (race, gender, age, partner/marital status, dependants, health and disability, sexuality, employment status, housing status, receiving benefits etc.)**

**\* 5. What is the problem or injustice facing the client? ( how is it affecting their daily life? )**

# Welfare Reform

## The Big Debate

Join us to **consider the imminent changes to welfare benefits**, for **discussion on the impact to service users** and **how to provide continued support**.

Hear from the **DWP, JCP and Local Authority** on **PIP, Universal Credit, and replacement schemes for Housing and Council Tax benefits**

17<sup>th</sup> January 1.30 – 5.00pm, Shrewsbury Town Football Club, SY2 6ST

