

UC Finance Update

Sponsor: lan Wright

Author:

Board/Authority/Group: UC Programme Board

Date: 20th June 2023

For Discussion and Information

UCPB200623 - Paper No. 3

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

| Universal Credit Programme – Contents | 2023/24 Per | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|--|--|--|
| | Slide | | | |
| Finance Position 23/24 | 3 | | | |
| Drawdown Approval | 4 | | | |
| Total Programme Costs | 5 | | | |
| Investment, Running Costs and Savings | 6 | | | |

Period 02

UC

Universal Credit Programme – Finance Position 22/23

2023/24 Period 02

| | Forecast 23/24 | | | Budget 23/24 | | 23/24 Forecast Movement and Budget | | | | | |
|---------------|----------------|---------|-----|--------------|------|------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|
| | P02 | P01 | Var | Budget | Var | Programme Mgt | | | | | P02 P01 |
| Programme Mgt | 244 | 249 | 5 | 252 | 8 | Move to UC | | | | - | Budget |
| Move to UC | 27 | 27 | (0) | 27 | (0) | Investment | | | | | |
| Investment | 271 | 276 | 5 | 279 | 8 | Running Costs | | | _ | | |
| Running Costs | 1,404 | 1,420 | 16 | 1,336 | (68) | Savings | | | | | |
| Savings | (1,969) | (1,969) | 0 | (1,969) | 0 | | | | | | |
| Depreciation | 20 | 20 | (0) | 20 | 0 | Depreciation | 0 500 | 1,000 | 1,500 | 2,000 | 2,500 |
| Total | (275) | (254) | 21 | (335) | (60) | | 0 500 | | n. | 2,000 | 2,500 |

Forecast

- Total forecast decrease this month of £21.4m, made up of:
- £16.1m UC Operations recruitment slippage
- £5.3m £5.0m Reduction in Move to UC Marketing, aligning to the approved campaign and £0.3m updated Programme workforce plans

Budget

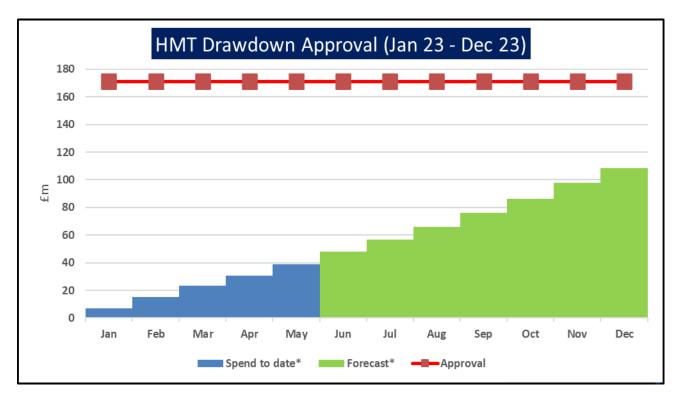
- No budget movement this month.
- The 23/24 Budget is **£281.5m** including depreciation (£264.7m excluding depreciation).

Universal Credit Programme – Drawdown Approval

2023/24 Period 02

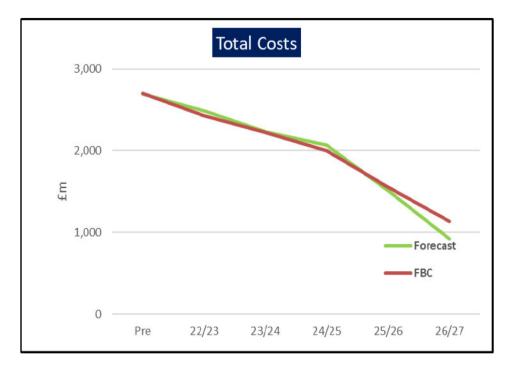
Drawdown Approval Narrative.

- Current forecast of £109m
- HMT has approved drawdown of £171m for Move to UC, for the period January 2023 to December 2023, excluding depreciation.
- Drawdown is not required for Help to Claim and Targeted Case Review which have already received HMT approval.



Universal Credit Programme – Total Programme Costs

2023/24 Period 02



Total Programme Costs Headlines

Overall forecast costs are £238m lower than the FBC Refresh due to:

- The impact of the WP22 volume refresh on operational costs and savings
- The policy change for an increase in the Administrative Earnings Threshold (AET) to 15 hours
- Changes to the Employment Support Allowance migration timetable
- The adoption of a new Move to UC migration cost model
- Additional Autumn Statement 22 funding for the increased Targeted Case Review activity

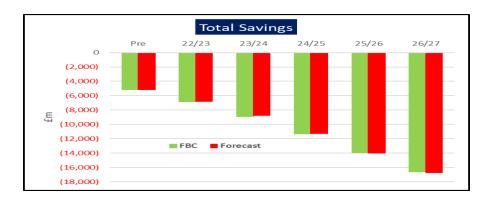
| | Total Costs £m | | | | | | | | Whole Life |
|---------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|----------|------------|
| | Pre | 22/23 | 23/24 | 24/25 | 25/26 | 26/27 | Total | FBC | Movement |
| Programme Mgt | 1,841 | 117 | 244 | 434 | 89 | 51 | 2,776 | 2,554 | (222) |
| Move to UC | 152 | 7 | 27 | 77 | 1 | 0 | 264 | 443 | 179 |
| Investment | 1,993 | 124 | 271 | 511 | 90 | 51 | 3,040 | 2,997 | (43) |
| Running Costs | 5,536 | 1,288 | 1,404 | 1,827 | 2,040 | 2,074 | 14,170 | 14,308 | 138 |
| Savings | (5,141) | (1,637) | (1,969) | (2,524) | (2,716) | (2,741) | 16,728 | (16,588) | 140 |
| Depreciation | 307 | 17.4 | 19.5 | 22.4 | 25.5 | 24.1 | 415.8 | 419 | 3 |
| Total | 2,695 | (208) | (275) | (163) | (561) | (591) | 897 | 1,135 | 238 |

Universal Credit Programme – Investment, Running Costs and Savings

2023/24 Period 02







Investment Costs Headlines

Investment forecast currently higher due to the impacts of additional Autumn Statement 22 funding for the increased Targeted Case Review activity and latest Move to UC volumes and adoption of updated Migration Cost Model.

Running Costs Headlines

Running cost forecast currently lower than the FBC Refresh due to impact of the WP22 volume refresh, policy change for an increase in the Administrative Earnings Threshold (AET) to 15 hours, a reduction in UC Operations following revised methodologies when allocating forecast between UC & Legacy and updated recharges incorporated into forecast.

Savings Headlines

Benefit savings have been recalculated using the revised 'Like for Like' savings model that was agreed with HMT in March 2021, recalculated to reflect the Winter Planning 2022 volumetrics and legacy benefit conversion methodology.