

## **Notice of Motion**

### **Motion to be moved by Councillor Wareing:**

Council notes the second reading vote in Parliament on Tuesday 1st July, which passed the Government UC and PIP Bill and the third-reading vote which happened on Wednesday 9th July.

Due to campaigning by disability groups in Hull and across the country including some Labour MPs the Government was forced to backed down on proposals in the original bill.

Council still had concerns about the Government's plans for PIP. During the debate, the Government agreed to remove plans to restrict eligibility for PIP from the bill. The Government will now look to make changes to PIP after a review of the PIP assessment has been completed. This is being carried out by the Minister for Social Security and Disability, Stephen Timms.

Council believes the review should be co-produced with disabled people to give residents in Hull a say.

The bill will bringing in cuts to Universal Credit for disabled people across the city.

It is now proposed there will be no changes to PIP until the government has completed its review of the PIP assessment. Which the Government has committed to co-producing with disabled people to examine how the PIP assessment is working.

Council notes the Bill sets out a lot of changes to disability benefits. These include:

- Cutting and freezing the health element of Universal Credit for claimants from April 2026.
- If you stop claiming Universal Credit and start again after April 2026, you may get a lower health element than before.
- Components of ESA such as disability premiums will not go up with inflation.
- New health element claimants will receive half the amount of support that current claimants get.

Disabled people already face higher costs for essentials like energy bills. Cutting benefits would push more people into poverty. They do not help disabled people get jobs.

Council welcomes the changes the Government have made so far. But they do not go far enough. We still want the Government to withdraw this bill and start again.

This Council congratulates those MPs who voted against the Governments measures including the 49 Labour MPs who voted against the Labour Governments planned cuts.

Council also denounces the 3 local Labour MPs who voted to cut PIP payments.

## OFFICIAL

This Council believes:

- Disabled people have the right to live with dignity and respect.
- PIP is essential for many to live independently and to participate in work, education and society. Removing it will deepen hardship and cost more in the long run.
- These cuts are not meaningful reform, they are a short-sighted attempt to offload national costs onto people with disabilities, councils and the NHS.
- Disabled people must not be made to pay the price for a broken and underfunded care system.

Therefore, this Council resolves to:

1. Request the Leader of the Council to write to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, urging them to withdraw the proposed PIP cuts, citing their damaging impact on health, wellbeing, and local government finances in Hull.
2. Request that the Leader of the Council writes to Hull's Members of Parliament, calling on them to oppose these proposals in Parliament and stand up for the needs of their constituents.
3. Request the Executive to commit to supporting Hull residents affected by the changes, including: ensuring access to advice and guidance; signposting to financial support, and working with local voluntary and community organisations to respond to rising needs.
4. Request that the Leader of the Council writes to the Chancellor of the Exchequer regarding: the upcoming Local Government Spending Review, using this opportunity to advocate for increased financial support for Local Authorities with pressures in their Social Care budgets, and the implementation of a modest Wealth Tax on individuals with assets over £10 million.

Sources:

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3988>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cly8877x3z2o>

<https://www.scope.org.uk/news-and-stories/the-universal-credit-bill-has-passed-its-second-reading-here-is-everything-you-need-to-know>

<https://www.hulldailymail.co.uk/news/hull-east-yorkshire-news/how-hull--east-yorkshire-10318886>