

Removal of the family premium for new claims

- Prior to April 2016 the needs allowance (known as applicable amount) included a Family Premium of £17.45 in the calculation of claims for Housing Benefit (HB) and Council Tax Support (CTS). The Family Premium is normally given when a claimant has at least one dependant child living with them.
- From April 2016 the Housing Benefit regulations were amended to remove the Family Premium for new claims made on or after the 1 April 2016, 3 of the 4 district and boroughs amended their CTS schemes to mirror the HB scheme. Corby Borough Council (CBC) currently awards the Family Premium in the calculation of new CTS claims.
- This change would not affect those on passported benefits. These are Universal Credit (UC), Income Support, Income Related Employment and Support Allowance or Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance. Claimants on any of these benefits would retain the current level of entitlement.
- New working age residents, not on a passported benefit would see a reduction in the amount of support they receive.
- In the main, new working age CTS claims are also Universal Credit recipients therefore the family premium does not play a part in the CTS calculation as the Universal Credit award overrides this.
- In February 2017 CBC and Corby Jobcentre were the first postcode area selected in Northamptonshire to roll out UC for new claimants, this means introducing this is likely to have a minimal impact on CBC (if any).