

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 26 March 2020 10:59

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Parker Kerstin POLICY GROUP UNIVERSAL CREDIT & EMPLOYMENT POLICY <KERSTIN.PARKER@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: COVID 19 - EMERGENCY PAYMENTS TO LEGACY CUSTOMERS

All – DWP are likely to come under pressure to increase amounts of payments to those outside of the UC catchment – new UC Provisions due to come into force on 6 April will increase the standard allowance for customers until April 21.

Therefore I just wanted to inform you of a piece of work we've kicked off with Digital Colleagues to look at what options there are to make emergency payments quickly and efficiently to customers not receiving UC – for example using existing legacy systems or if regular payments are not viable could we explore a single one off payment eg (WFP, Xmas bonus or some other mechanism)?

We have led the initial stages of this work because of our Up-rating responsibilities. However, if this gains any traction your input will become greater as decisions will need to be made about legislation, how much the increase should be etc which will fall to the relevant policy teams.

Please feel free to forward this email to other colleagues you think need to be involved.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]