



**Chris Heaton-Harris**  
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*Dear Constituent,*

Thank you for contacting me about support for those who are sick or disabled in Universal Credit.

Universal Credit provides a simpler system with support for those who are sick or disabled built in. These claimants benefit from the removal of the distinction between in-work and out-of-work support, ensuring barriers to work are reduced as much as possible. Claimants who are sick or disabled will be able to explore working or volunteering without worrying about this ending their entitlement to benefit as it could do under the previous system. Instead, claimants will be able to keep more of their earnings with access to a work allowance and a taper rate for earnings above this level.

Work-related conditionality requirements will also be tailored to meet individual circumstances. Those who have limited capability for work related activity will have no conditionality applied to them. However, they are able to voluntarily engage in work related supportive activities. They will receive an additional £343.63 per month, more than double the equivalent rate in Employment and Support Allowance (ESA).

I have spoken with colleagues at the Department for Work and Pensions, who reassure me that those with disabilities and health conditions are some of the biggest beneficiaries of Universal Credit, with around 1 million disabled households receiving an average of £110 more per month.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

**CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP**  
**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY**