



Friday 6 December 2019

Leeds Civic Hall, Calverley Street, Leeds LS1 1UR (entrance on Millennium Square)

Hosted by Leeds City Council

AGENDA

- 9.00 **Registration and refreshments**
- 9.30 **Welcome**
- 9.40 **Phil Hanns memorial lecture:** Sue Royston - Citizens Advice Craven and Harrogate Districts and Disability Benefits Consortium (DBC)
Just? Managing? – some early thoughts on managed migration and some longer term structural issues in UC
- 10.25 **Guest speaker:** Dr Simon Duffy - Centre for Welfare Reform
Universal credit vs basic income - why this is the choice before us
- 11.00 **Workshops:** session one (see ‘workshop options’ on following page)
- 12.00 **Lunch** (not provided at the venue)
- 1.00 **Guest speaker:** Sarah Clarke, Public Law Project
Conditionality in universal credit and public law remedies
- 1.30 **Workshops:** session two (see ‘workshop options’ on following page)
- 2.30 **Information exchange and NAWRA updates**
- 3.00 **Close and post-conference Christmas social**

WORKSHOP OPTIONS:

Each workshop lasts an hour and runs twice (once at 11.00am and again at 1:30pm). When you sign in you will be asked choose **two** from the following options.

A. Non-EU citizens and benefits

Scott Kelly, Leeds City Council

Workshop level: Intermediate / Practical

Find out how Leeds City Council Welfare Rights is dealing with families with no recourse to public funds.

B. Professional standards within the industry

Scott McNally & Phillip Allen, Durham County Council

Workshop level: Intermediate-Advanced / Strategic

A discussion and some proposals for professionalising the industry and raising standards.

C. Council tax support for UC claimants: perspective from a local authority

Corin Hammersley, Royal Borough of Greenwich

Workshop level: Intermediate / Practical

Many local authorities are reviewing their Council Tax Support schemes, increasingly so that their scheme can be administered more effectively and efficiently for universal credit claimants. Corin Hammersley gives a perspective on the challenges for local authorities, the differences in administering this benefit for UC claimants, and explains what data is shared regarding UC awards.

NAWRA workshop levels:

Introductory	Assumes little or no prior knowledge of the topic or a refresher session
Intermediate	Assumes a reasonable working knowledge of welfare benefits work or some knowledge of the specific topic under discussion
Advanced	Assumes a good working knowledge of welfare benefits work or detailed knowledge of the topic under discussion
Practical	Focusing on developing good practice or offering some 'hints and tips'
Theoretical	Focusing on policy debates or discussion of emerging theory
Strategic	Focusing on planning and put practical knowledge, and/or theory in to practice

If you'd like to run a workshop at a future NAWRA meeting please contact kelly@nawra.org.uk

SPEAKERS

Sue Royston is the volunteer coordinator of universal credit research at Citizens Advice Craven and Harrogate Districts. Harrogate was chosen by the DWP to be the location for the UC managed migration pilot. Sue is also an adviser on universal credit to the [Disability Benefits Consortium \(DBC\)](#) and part of her presentation is based on a report she has recently written for the DBC.

Simon Duffy is the founder and director of the [Centre for Welfare Reform](#). He speaks regularly on television and radio about the welfare state and social policy. He is best known for inventing personal budgets and for designing systems of self-directed support. He works as a consultant and researcher with local social innovators and national governments.

Sarah Clarke is a solicitor at the [Public Law Project](#) (PLP). PLP employs specialist lawyers who assist individuals experiencing personal disadvantage, or charities or organisations representing the interests of marginalised or disadvantaged groups. PLP also employs expert academics and researchers. PLP undertakes research and policy work, provides training and support to lawyers and advisers and carries out legal casework including strategic litigation. Strategic litigation is where a legal case is taken on with the intention of changing the way a system works to help many people.

LOCATION AND TRANSPORT

The conference will take place in the Civic Hall, Calverley Street. Leeds LS1 1UR. Please use the entrance on Millennium Square. [Map](#).

By rail: Northern, Transpennine Express and LNER line trains stop at Leeds. The Civic Hall is a ten minute walk north of the station.

By bus: There are various routes into Leeds city centre. Use the journey planner at [Yorkshire Travel](#).

ACCOMMODATION

The closest hotels to the venue are [Premier Inn \(Leeds Arena\)](#) / [Hotel Ibis Styles Leeds City Centre Arena](#) / [Travelodge Leeds Vicar Lane](#)

LUNCH

Lunch is not provided however there is the [Cuthbert Brodrick Wetherspools](#) just outside the Civic Hall and there are various other cafes nearby.

SOCIAL EVENINGS

Thursday 5 December: NAWRA members will be meeting up for food and drinks from 7pm on the evening before the conference at the [Cuthbert Brodrick](#), 99 Portland Crescent, Leeds LS2 3AD. All welcome!

Friday 6 December: NAWRA members will be gathering for a post-conference Christmas social at The Victoria, 28 Great George St, Leeds LS1 3DL. All welcome!

The meeting is free to attend but open to NAWRA members only. [Find out more about joining.](#)

If you have any queries about the meeting please contact
Kelly Smith, NAWRA secretary
kelly@nawra.org.uk

www.nawra.org.uk