









Universal Credit – True or False?

	<p>A few months ago, Doris (60) and George (70) moved into Sunshine House - Happy Housing Association's Extra Care Scheme - due to George's physical and mental health problems. Sadly, George died recently.</p> <p>Doris has no income. She will need to make a claim for Universal Credit. She will also need to claim Housing Benefit for help with her rent, because she lives in 'specified accommodation'.</p>	
	<p>Claudette has made a claim for UC. She's been living with her dad in his two bedroom social housing property. Sadly, he passed away last week. She has been allowed to stay living in the property as long as she pays a 'use and occupation' charge.</p> <p>Her work coach has said that she will not be entitled to a Housing Costs Element as she doesn't have a tenancy in her name.</p>	
	<p>Joe is 22 and claiming UC. He's been living with his mum in her two-bedroom private rented flat.</p> <p>His mum has just gone to prison for 3 years.</p> <p>Even though he is not the tenant, Joe can have a Housing Cost Element included in his UC assessment whilst his mum is away.</p>	
	<p>Davinder has had to finish work due to health problems. He is getting basic SSP and has made a claim for UC to top this up and help him pay his rent.</p> <p>Although he lives on his own, he has a joint tenancy with his former partner, who moved away a few years ago.</p> <p>This means that he will only get 50% of the rent covered by UC and the DWP will expect the other joint tenant to be paying the other half.</p>	
	<p>Julie was arrested two weeks ago for ABH. She has previous - so she is being held on remand. Before being arrested she was working and not claiming any benefits. But she can make a new claim for UC whilst on remand and get help with her rent. Her court hearing is expected to take place in a few weeks time.</p>	
	<p>You have just found out that Ahmed is in hospital. He has been sectioned under the mental health act and is likely to be in hospital for a few months – as long as he is going to return home within 12 months his rent will continue to be covered by UC.</p>	
	<p>Heather lives in a three bedroom house with her son and his girlfriend – both aged 20. She's been working, but this came to an end last week and so she has made a claim for UC. She'll actually be better off on UC (than if she'd been able to claim JSA and HB) because she will not be deemed as under occupying her home, and there will be no non-dep charge even though her son is working.</p>	
	<p>Viola lives with her partner in a three bedroom flat with their two daughters age 7 and 11. They have just had their third child – their work coach has told them that they don't need to go through the hassle of reporting the birth as they are 'caught' by the two child limit they won't receive any extra Universal Credit.</p>	