

David Johnston OBE, M.P.  
Member of Parliament for  
Wantage  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

**Councillor Emily Smith**  
Leader of the Council

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Dear Mr Johnston,

I am writing on behalf of Vale of White Horse District Council to express our dismay at HM Government's choice to cut the £20 uplift in Universal Credit. We have written letters to both the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions (copies of which are enclosed) requesting that this decision is reversed and that the uplift is instead permanently incorporated into the system.

We are disappointed that HM Government has overseen the biggest overnight cut to the basic rate of social security since the foundation of the modern welfare state – especially at a time of increased economic uncertainty and rising living costs. Their decision has taken support away from low-income working families (of which 5000+ are located within our district) and placed many of these households in a perilous financial position.

The Vale hopes that you will support us in our request to see that this cut is reversed as a matter of urgency.

I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Emily Smith  
Leader of the Council