
Director General for Regulation

Owen Stevens
(By email)

20 December 2017

Dear Mr Stevens

Thank you for contacting the Statistics Authority regarding the presentation of Universal Credit benefit sanctions. I am pleased to say that DWP has agreed to make its explanation clearer and is adding the following text to the publication on gov.uk:

“A sanction reduces a claimant’s Universal Credit award by an amount never more than their standard allowance element entitlement only. However, depending on the claimant’s circumstances, such as other deductions, the overall Universal Credit payment could be reduced to nil.”

Yours sincerely



Ed Humpherson
Director General for Regulation