Dear Mr Field

Universal Credit Adverts

Thank you for your letter of 18 October. Universal Credit (UC) has been designed to work like wages and salaries. As your letter points out, the majority of employees are paid monthly, even at the £12000 point, as the ONS data shows. Tax Credit data, which I have previously shared with the Committee, also shows monthly to be the predominant form of payment to employees on low incomes.

Unlike the legacy system, Universal Credit pays claimants their entitlement direct, including housing costs, which mirrors a wage.

These are precisely the points the advert makes and so it is entirely consistent with the facts.

Yours Sincerely

Neil Couling
Director General, Universal Credit Programme