

TEMPLATE LETTER TO MPS

Ask your MP to support an Independent Process to set Universal Credit

Guarantee Our Essentials Action

March 2026

R.E: Independent Review of Universal Credit – Guarantee our Essentials campaign

Bcc: campaigners@wirralfoodbank.org.uk

Dear [NAME OF MP],

We are writing to you today about the Guarantee our Essentials Campaign. We appreciate the support you have previously shown towards the campaign, and we now ask for your help with our next call for action. We are calling for an independent review of Universal Credit.

There's lots to celebrate, including the lifting of the two-child limit and we hope this represents the start of further reforms to the social security system. Every week people in the Wirral are unable to afford the essentials like food or heating because our social security system isn't based on what things cost.

The current process for setting Universal Credit rates isn't linked to any calculation of what essentials like food or heating actually cost. Instead, each year the uprating process is optional, leaving 8 million people's lives at the whim of whichever political party is in government.

An independent advisory process for Universal Credit that's based on real costs and includes the voices of people with lived experience, would help to address the failings in the social security system.

We ask you to:

- **Write or speak to Chancellor Rachel Reeves about this campaign** and ask for the government to
- **Raise this as a question in parliament.** "Can we start an Independent Review of Universal Credit and how it is measured".
- **Join the Across Party Parliamentary group on Ending the Need for Foodbanks.** You can contact Public.affairs@trussell.org.uk to join.

Space for your story:

Ideas: how you or someone you know has been impacted by the low level of Universal Credit, how people in your community are impacted and any relevant information and stats from a trustworthy source.

Thank you for your support and for everything you're doing in Parliament to tackle poverty.

Best wishes,