

Basic Income Plus

An Introduction



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Publishing information

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The UBI Lab Network is supporting a growing movement in support of basic income. You can find out more information here:

<https://www.ubilabnetwork.org>

Citizen Network is a global cooperative to create a world where everyone matters, you can join for free here:

<https://citizen-network.org>

Introduction



This paper is about some big ideas for the benefits system where:

- Everyone gets a basic amount of money
- Some people with extra costs get more



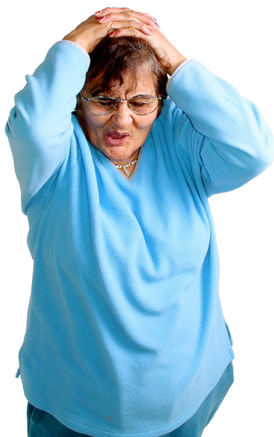
This idea is called **Basic Income Plus** or **UBI+**

We want to hear your opinions and questions about our ideas.



People are suffering.

- Many people don't get the money they need
- People get into debt and use food banks
- Assessments are often wrong
- People are frightened of being punished
- People are dying
- People go without food and essentials
- People are afraid of losing their benefits



Basic Income



This paper is about a different kind of system called **basic income**. This means:

1. Every single person gets a secure income
2. You do not lose this income for any reason
3. No sanctions, no punishments, no fear



A basic income system is **not enough**. Some people have complex needs and face extra costs. Basic Income Plus would give people **more money** if they have **extra needs**.



Basic Income Plus

The purpose of a basic income is to make sure people can always afford basics like food, water, clothes and shelter. This means they can participate fully as an equal citizen.



People would be free of the **fear** of sanctions, deprivation and destitution.

Minimum Income



Some people face extra costs because:

- They live alone and can't share living costs
- They have a disability
- They are too ill to work



Minimum Income Standard (MIS)

The MIS is a method of working out the basic cost of living. It is the amount of money we need to live with dignity, as an equal citizen.

[For more information about MIS click here.](#)



We can also **learn** from **how benefits work now** to support people who are ill or disabled. We can use this information to create a **Basic Income Plus** system.



The system would **not** make people to go to damaging assessments. We could use **self-assessments**. Many people do this to pay tax already.

Bolt-Ons



The MIS uses 4 categories of human need:

- Personal: Food, clothing and sundries
- Home: Water, heating, light, internet...etc
- Travel: bus, train, car, taxi
- Activities: community and cultural



“Bolt-ons” are **extra payments** for long term illness, disability, and caring. The Personal Independence Payment (PIP) is similar, and already in use.



Everyone could receive a combination of the the **four basic payments** defined by MIS **plus** a **bolt-on payment**. For example, if a person is unable to work due to ill health, they might receive an extra £65 per week.



Carers of pre-school children or adults would benefit too. If caring means they cannot work, there could be an **extra payment**. For example, an allowance for caring could be set at £130.

Rent



Covering the cost of housing is essential.

This means that everyone can pay their rent and have a roof over their head.

Here are 2 examples:



Single person living alone in their own home

Individual allowance = £50

Home allowance = £57.34

Travel allowance = £30

Social & cultural allowance = £20

Total UBI = £157.34



Single person with a disability; renting

Individual allowance = £50

Home allowance = £57.34

Travel allowance = £30

Social & cultural allowance = £20

+ Unable to work payment = £65

+ Local Housing Allowance to pay for rent

+ DLA/PIP and disability premiums

Total UBI+ = £222.34 or more



Next Steps



There is growing interest in Basic Income:

- The Scottish government is planning a major “pilot”, to try it out
- Liverpool, Sheffield, Hull & Norwich want to try basic income too
- All political parties (except the Conservative Party) are showing support for the idea
- The number of UBI groups is growing in the UK



There have been trials of basic income.

They showed that it improves people’s health and wellbeing.

We now need to explore the idea of **Basic Income Plus.**



A good way to do this would be to work together.

Disabled people, people with mental health problems, carers and people with other needs can make sure that any new system includes everyone.



Use this online form to give us your views, suggestions and questions:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LLDFDCY>

Useful websites:

Citizen's Basic Income Trust

<https://citizensincome.org>

Basic Income Earth Network

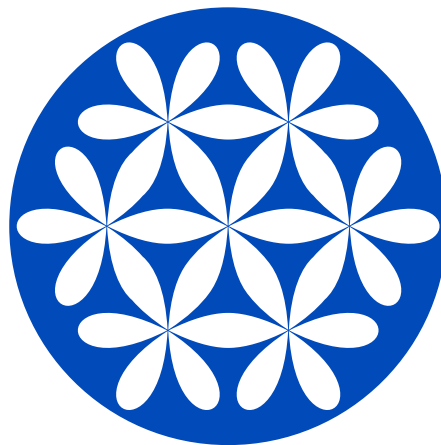
<https://basicincome.org>

UBI Lab Network

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