

Option 3

- No distinction between service users based on residential circumstances.
- No charges below the lower capital limit for working age means tested benefits.
- Highest rate chargeable over the higher capital limit for working age benefits.
- Simplified fee structure between these figures, to avoid complications with non-means-tested service users.
- Fee above £16,000 to be double the lowest rate.
- Fee increases linked to benefit rates rather than local government pay awards, to reflect ability to pay instead of cost of providing the service (% change in UC standard allowance to be % change in fees).
- Capital disregards listed in schedule 10 of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013 (SI 2013/376) to apply in calculating capital.
- Any Appointeeship established or maintained, in whole or in part, because of control or coercion to be exempt from fees (cases reviewed annually).

Example Fees:

| Capital | Fee (weekly) |
|----------------------|--------------|
| £,6000 | £0 |
| £6,000 - £9,999.99 | £10 |
| £10,000 - £15,999.99 | £15 |
| £16,000 | £20 |

Data is not disaggregated by capital above £10,000 in the report, but a consistent linear trend of 18.6 service users per £2000 increment is observed below £10,000. Assuming that rate doubles in the £10,000 - £15,999.99 bracket, the fee levels above would raise £131,560 per annum prior to domestic abuse disregards.