14.3 - Rent arrears and universal credit
Opposition Amendment in the name of Cllr Ross Houston

Delete all and replace with (additions in bold):

Council notes the clear evidence that where Universal Credit has been rolled out more people are made homeless because of rent arrears. **Among** the main causes of arrears are the five week delay in first payment of Universal Credit and other delays caused by Department of Work and Pensions error.

Council notes that as of October 85 per cent of Barnet Homes' 321 Universal Credit claimants were in rent arrears and 20 per cent of their arrears had accrued since they transferred to Universal Credit.

Council calls on LB Barnet to follow the lead of Camden Council in refusing to evict Council tenants in rent arrears as a result of Universal Credit delays and to urge registered social landlords and private landlords to do the same.

Council also calls for the relevant themed committee to receive regular monitoring information on the implementation of Universal Credit in Barnet and its impact on local residents.

[Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted on at the meeting.]