

Autumn Budget 2017: Summary of announcements

Topic	Summary	Detail
UK Economy	Forecast	The OBR expects to see slower GDP growth over the forecast period, and GDP has been revised down to 1.5% in 2017; 1.4% in 2018; 1.3% 2019/20; 1.5% in 2021 and 1.6% in 2022. Inflation will peak at 3% in this quarter, then reduce to 2% next year.
	Increased people in work	The number of people in employment is forecast to continue to increase to 32.7 million in 2022 – a further 600,000 people in work by the final year of the forecast.
	Unemployment rate to increase	The unemployment rate is forecast to increase slightly over the forecast horizon as it returns to the OBR's new estimate of its equilibrium rate, remaining at 4.6% from 2020 onwards.
	NICs delay	The government will delay implementing a series of NICs policies by one year. These are the abolition of Class 2 NICs, reforms to the NICs treatment of termination payments, and changes to the NICs treatment of sporting testimonials.
	Tax relief for work-related training	The government will consult in 2018 on extending the scope of tax relief currently available to employees and the self-employed for work-related training costs.
Wages	National Living Wage increase	The NLW will increase by 4.4% from £7.50 to £7.83 from April 2018. The Low Pay Commission estimates this will benefit over 2 million workers. The government will also accept all of the LPC's recommendations for the other NMW rates to apply from April 2018. For youth rates, the recommendations include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increasing the rate for 21 to 24 year olds by 4.7% from £7.05 to £7.38 per hour • increasing the rate for 18 to 20 year olds by 5.4% from £5.60 to £5.90 per hour • increasing the rate for 16 to 17 year olds by 3.7% from £4.05 to £4.20 per hour • increasing the rate for apprentices by 5.7% from £3.50 to £3.70 per hour
Employment and Welfare	Universal Credit advances	From January 2018 those who need it, and who have an underlying entitlement to Universal Credit, will be able to access up to a month's worth of Universal Credit within five days via an interest-free advance. The government will extend the period of recovery from six months to twelve months. New claimants in December will be able to receive an advance of 50% of their monthly entitlement at the beginning of their claim and a second advance to take it up to 100% in the new year, before their first payment date.
	Removal of the 7 day waiting period	From February 2018 the government will remove the seven-day waiting period so that entitlement to Universal Credit starts on the first day of application
	Housing Benefit for first two weeks	From April 2018 those already on Housing Benefit will continue to receive their award for the first two weeks of their Universal

	<p>of UC</p> <p>Roll Out changes</p> <p>£8million in-work progression trials</p>	<p>Credit claim. The government will also make it easier for claimants to have the housing element of their award paid directly to their landlord</p> <p>To support these changes the government will roll out Universal Credit more gradually between February 2018 and April 2018, and roll-out to all jobcentres will be complete in December 2018.</p> <p>Universal Credit also offers new opportunities to support people in low-paid work to progress in the labour market. The Budget allocates £8 million to trial innovative approaches to help individuals on Universal Credit to earn more.</p>
Housing and Homelessness		
<p>Homelessness & Rough Sleeping</p>	<p>Half Rough Sleeping by 2022</p> <p>Housing First pilots</p> <p>Private rented sector access schemes</p>	<p>The Budget sets out the government’s first steps towards its commitment to halve rough sleeping by 2022, and to eliminate it by 2027, including the launch of the Homelessness Reduction Taskforce, which will develop a cross-government strategy to work towards this commitment.</p> <p>The government will invest £28 million in three Housing First pilots in Manchester, Liverpool and the West Midlands, to support rough sleepers with the most complex needs to turn their lives around.</p> <p>The government will also provide £20 million of funding for schemes to support people at risk of homelessness to access and sustain tenancies in the private rented sector.</p>
Skills & Productivity		
<p>Construction Workers</p>	<p>£34million to upskill construction workers</p>	<p>The government will provide £34 million to scale up innovative training models across the country, including a programme in the West Midlands. The government is working with industry to finalise a Construction Sector Deal that will support innovation and skills in the sector, including £170 million of investment through the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund. Construction skills will also be a focus for the National Retraining Scheme.</p>

Skills & Productivity	National Retraining Partnership Retraining to work in priority sectors Work-based training £20 million investment in T levels	<p>The government will enter into a formal skills partnership with the Trades Union Congress and the Confederation of British Industry to develop the National Retraining Scheme. Together they will help set the strategic priorities for the scheme and oversee its implementation, working with new Skills Advisory Panels to ensure that local economies' needs are reflected.</p> <p>The National Retraining Partnership will oversee targeted short-term action in sectors with skills shortages, initially focussing on construction and digital skills. Alongside the government's investment in housing and construction, the government will invest £30 million to test the use of AI and innovative EdTech in online digital skills courses so that learners can benefit from this emerging technology, wherever they are in the country. There will also be new employer-designed courses in construction and digital.</p> <p>The government will provide £8.5 million over the next two years to support Unionlearn, an organisation of the Trades Union Congress to boost learning in the workplace.</p> <p>The government will invest up to £20 million to help teachers prepare for the change to T-Levels (for FE Colleges according to the Chancellor's speech).</p>
Improving Public Services	Public Value Framework GovTech Fund Public Service Leadership Academy	<p>The government welcomes Sir Michael Barber's review and accepts the central recommendation to introduce a new Public Value Framework, a tool that will be used by government to measure how effectively public spending delivers results that improve people's lives. This will support more constructive conversations on public sector productivity and offer practical insights into improving public services. The approach will be piloted in collaboration with departments during 2018.</p> <p>The Budget commits up to £20 million over 3 years, starting in 2018-19, of R&D NPIF funding for a GovTech Fund. Public bodies will be able to access this fund to support procurement of innovative products through the Small Business Research Initiative (SBRI), run by Innovate UK.</p> <p>The government will establish a Public Service Leadership Academy to complement existing provision, create networks and share best practice across the public services. A taskforce will be set up to advise on the role, remit and responsibilities of the new Academy and will provide an interim report by Spring Statement 2018.</p>
Other Public Services	Mental Health Green Paper Additional funding for Disabled Facilities Grant in 2017-18 £15 million allocated to	<p>In December, a green paper will be published setting out the government's plans to transform mental health services for children and young people.</p> <p>The Budget also provides £42 million of additional funding for the Disabled Facilities Grant in 2017-18, supporting people to stay in their own homes. This will increase the total budget for this year to £473 million.</p>

	relationships support	The government will provide funding for DWP's relationship support work, to help keep families together and reduce parental conflict. £15 million has been allocated from 2018 – 2020..
Nations	Budget increases for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland	The Scottish Government's budget will increase by £2 billion through to 2020-21. The Welsh Government's budget will increase by £1.2 billion through to 2020-21. The budget for a Northern Ireland Executive will increase by £660 million through to 2020-21.
Devolution	<p>West Midlands - £5 million for a construction skills training scheme</p> <p>The North of Tyne Devolution Deal</p> <p>Greater Manchester:</p> <p>Local industrial strategy</p> <p>Improved support for older people</p> <p>Education and skills in prison and the community</p> <p>Joined up offender education</p> <p>Skills Advisory Panel</p>	<p>The government has agreed a second devolution deal in principle with the West Midlands Mayor and Combined Authority to address local productivity barriers. This includes £6 million for a housing delivery taskforce, £5 million for a construction skills training scheme and a £250 million allocation from the Transforming Cities fund to be spent on local intra-city transport priorities.</p> <p>The government has agreed a 'minded to' devolution deal with the North of Tyne authorities, which will be subject to the consent of local partners. This will see £600 million of investment in the region over 30 years and create a new mayor elected in 2019 with powers over important economic levers including planning and skills.</p> <p>The government will provide a £243 million allocation from the Transforming Cities Fund and will continue to work with Transport for Greater Manchester to explore options for the future beyond the Fund, including land value capture.</p> <p>Government and Greater Manchester will work with the DWP and local Jobcentre managers to explore opportunities to improve employment support for older people, including consideration of a locally tailored offer targeted at the over 50s.</p> <p>Government promises to improve integration between education provision within prisons and work and skills opportunities in the community.</p> <p>Join up offender management services with those in the community, refreshing the joint Memorandum of Understanding by March 2018, clearly defining the roles and responsibilities of the MoJ, GMCA and senior operational leaders. There will be a focus on better integration of education provision, supporting prison governors to deliver, avoid duplication and ensure transition from learning and skills in prison to community is connected.</p> <p>Implement one of the first Skills Advisory Panels (SAP), involving an enhanced local partnership between the GMCA, local employers, post-16 skills providers and Central Government. The GMCA will work with Government and local employers to encourage a strong Greater Manchester offer of traineeships, work placements and apprenticeship placements.</p>