

Proposed Bill to abolish charges for non-residential social care

Page 2: About you

Please provide your name and other contact details. Please provide at least one means of contacting you (address, e-mail or telephone) - e-mail is our preferred option. (NB: you will be given the option shortly to specify whether it is your name or your organisation's name that is to be used, and you may also request anonymity or confidentiality for your response.)

Your name (mandatory) [REDACTED]

Name of your organisation (if applicable - otherwise leave blank) [REDACTED]

Your Job Title (if applicable - otherwise leave blank) [REDACTED]

Contact details (please provide at least one of: email, telephone number, postal address) (mandatory) [REDACTED]

Please indicate below whether you are content for your response to be attributed to you by name (either your name or that of your organisation)

I would like my response to be anonymous (the response may be published, but no name)

Page 4: Your comments on the proposal

Q1: Do you support the principle that non-residential social care services should be available free at the point of delivery to those who have been assessed by a relevant professional as requiring them (as is the case within health care)?

Yes

Please explain your answer

As a minimum personal care should be free for all - not just over 65s Maybe other support could be chargeable if person is receiving PIP or AA

Q2. Do you agree that legislation is a necessary and appropriate means of addressing the issues identified?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your response

LAs will not act in favour of FPC for all without legislation

Q3. The current system has resulted in varying charges in different areas for the same level and quality of service. Do you agree that there should be consistency across Scotland?

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Yes

What do you think the advantages and disadvantages would be?

Benefit income is the same throughout the country

Q4. Should all social care related services be free at the point of delivery?

No

If you answered Yes, please explain your reasons. If you answered No, please explain which services should be excluded, and why. (Please refer to the services set out on page 7 of the consultation document).

Meals - everyone has to eat Possibly shopping services as there are more options these days with internet Handyman services - unless the work is specifically work due to client being disabled Basically any service which anyone might need regardless of disability should be chargeable and any services which are required due to disability should be free

Q5. What are the likely financial implications (if any) of the proposed Bill to you or your organisation? What (if any) other significant financial implications are likely to arise?

LA will not receive income from disabled people and may end up providing reduced services and tighter eligibility criteria to people.

Our LA is now taking charges from client individual budget at source (net payments). This has financial implications for people who choose to manage their own budget via a direct payment. Other options are paid gross!

Q6. What do you think the implications of the proposed Bill are for equality? If it is likely to have a substantial negative implication, how might this be minimised or avoided?

Positive

Please explain your answer. If you answered Negative, please suggest any ways this impact could be minimised or avoided.

Most people say to us that they did not ask to be disabled.

Q7. Are there any other comments you would wish to make that are relevant to this proposal?

Our LA introduced SDS option 1 as a free of charge until April 2015. Then people were informed they will have to contribute 55% of residual income (from a nil contribution). This has caused enormous upset for people.

LA also decided to pay net so people have to put contribution into package otherwise they cannot pay employees etc. This has caused some people to cancel their care as they cannot afford the contribution.

The figures quoted in the tax taper rates and the hourly rates in the consultation appear to be incorrect for Scottish Borders Council.