

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)

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

Your Job Title (if applicable - otherwise leave blank)

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

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

Essentially this is an issue of fairness. If similar services were provided in an NHS hospital they would be free, why should the user have to pay if they are provided at home. Equally, personal care in a nursing home is free, why is personal care in the home being charged?

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

Thirteen years of negotiations have failed to produce an agreement, so legislation is necessary,

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?

Yes there should be consistency across Scotland as the present situation is confusing and anomalous.

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

Yes

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).

In principle Yes. That would be a desirable outcome.

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?

The proposed Bill would have no current financial implications for me because although disabled I do not receive any social care services. The proposed Bill would however benefit many disabled people and their organisations. I cannot comment on overall costs that is for other people to judge.

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.

The implications for equality are highly positive in helping to bring about a fairer Scotland.

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

The proposal would complement the existing provision of free personal care and be regarded as a positive social advance.