

# 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)?

Undecided

**Please explain your answer**

I believe that non-residential social care needs to be free at the point of use, but I also believe that if a charge is necessary it should be capped at a certain amount related ONLY to DLA or PIP income. And that any charge necessary, should be able to be paid only with DLA/PIP income.

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**

As you said in your consultation documents, there has been an attempt to unify the amount people should be paying across the country without legislation. That has not happened. Legislation is the only way to unify the costs on a permanent basis.

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?

Yes

**What do you think the advantages and disadvantages would be?**

It means that people who have to move can know what they are paying for what.

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).**

because social care is identified as a persons need - it is not a choice for most people.

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?

N/A

Social care charges for me are meaning chosing between support and family.

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.**

It means people have the freedom to move and know exactly what they will be expected to pay. It means disabled persons earning the same as their non-disabled peers will have the same freedoms to spend their money on non-disposable matters.

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

I find social care charges a disability tax. It means that for a disable person earning the same as a non disabled person much more of the income is taken up as non-disposable income. Also the current charges makes working very unfavourable for people who rely on social care, when the vast majority of wages are going to be taken up in social care charges as most of the income will not be available to use as people wish in certain councils.

I moved less than six miles, and am currently living less that 2 miles from a council with a much lower contribution. the widely varying charges meant that I went from paying nothing over £50 a month for the exact same service. It also means that I have to make a choice between having the support I need, or being able to visit my sister (Australian resident), and more importantly - whether I will be able to go to her wedding without relying on other family members.

As much as I want to work the financial implications of working makes it less likely that I want to work to pay

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

for a need.  
Financial independence will totally improve my mental health.