


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.)

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|--|---|
| Your name (mandatory) | Sandra Brown |
| 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 am content for my response to be attributed to me (as an individual)

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

I am at risk of loosing my messes at home care as I am unable to pay this unfair and postcode lottery charge.

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

Local authorities can each decide whether to impose this unfair disability discriminatory charge to disabled home care users. It requires to be changed in Scottish legislation so that this charge is abolished Scotland

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

wide.

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 would be less discriminatory and less of a postcode lottery on if and how much you are charged for being disabled and in need of care assistance within the home.

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).

This is a tax on disabled and young chronically sick who need care and support at home. I worked for 20+ years prior to becoming chronically sick and disabled and in need of care. As a full tax and NICs payer, I expected that the state would support me. Unfortunately, I am a chronically sick and progressively disabled single mother, who also has to support her three children through university and college. This financial assessment of one assessment fits all is also discriminatory, as my reduced benefit income has to support, house, clothes, feed etc. four people in my household. My finances are that I'm in fuel and economic poverty and still expected to pay for home care. If I was on my own, or in a household with other earners then this assessment would be the same. I cannot pay and will lose my messes art care at home.

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?

If this discriminatory and unfair charge was abolished, I would be able to get the appropriate care I require, and even self directed care payments so that I can get the most perfect care package for my disabilities. I have currently need refused self directed care payments as I am unable to pay the charges for the meagre care I currently receive.

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 current system is a one size fits all assessment and does not take into consideration that a disabled

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?

person needing care might be the sole provider for children. It is a discriminatory charge on people between 18-65 years of age and is discriminative and dependent on a postcode lottery as to which local authority you reside in.

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

Yes. This current charging system for people who are young chronically sick and disabled is an ageism charge, a discriminatory charge on the care of the individual and is unfair in the extreme as it is a one size fits all assessment. I don't want this chronic disabling illness, I would prefer to have been healthy and a tax earner. No one should be taxed due to being ill or disabled. And why should one local authority subject their population to this charge when a neighbouring one doesn't. I was told at a social work meeting that I should consider uprooting myself and children from our home, and community and live in a neighbouring local authority who doesn't charge for necessary home care. Also, I was advised that my university and college going children should start their adult life in debt by taking out student loans in order for them to pay for these discriminatory home care charges.