

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)

Pauline campbell

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)

[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 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

These services are not used as a lifestyle choice , they are vital services for day to day living that occur due to my disability.

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

There is too much variation of charging and provision of services, even within the same local authority. A lot of it is dependent upon the skill and negotiating skills of a carer / parent and that simply isn't fair or equitable. What happens to our loved ones when we are no longer able to fight their corner? If it's written into legislation then our vulnerable are better protected.

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?

Undecided

What do you think the advantages and disadvantages would be?

Ideally it should be free , but if this can't be offered then I do not see the point in punishing people who live in an area that supports disabled better just so that everyone is equal. I do feel that there should be a clear maximum charge , that is fair and doesn't leave disabled people constantly battling poverty

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).

All services that meet basic human needs should be free- support getting washed , dressed and fed, plus if learning disabled being supported by a carer to keep you safe. Services like meals on wheels - you should be charged for the food but not the support needed to heat it up for you,

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?

It disabled twin adult daughters would both be seriously in debt if I did not support them financially . Our local council (Midlothian) do not accept disability related expenditure when doing a financial assessment .

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.

If there was a bill , then carers and disabled people will be exposed to less stress as they will not have to fight social services for what they are entitled to. At the moment there is a lot of anger amongst carers that their loved ones are getting a different level of service and charges - even within the same local authority.

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

I would like to make the point that people like my daughter who are severely disabled both mentally and physically do not have the option of " working harder" or "studying harder" to get a better paid job. My daughter through no fault of her own will require constant care 24/7 for the rest of her life, why should that life be in poverty? As a country , surely us taxpayers can contribute a little more in tax to give the learning disabled / vulnerable a decent standard of living.