

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)	grace harrigan
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

yes because the person i care for who is my son was assesed even pre school it was known that he would always require support throughout his life,,,my son was born with severe learning disability/down syndrome,,,it is through no fault of my son that he requires this support other than be born,,my son is presently receiving benefits ESA and DLA, my son is presently in over £2,000 thousand pounds worth of debt since the introduction of personalisation in glasgow,,my son has attended his day centre for support 5 days per week for 10yrs when not in ill health,,and in the last year is now in debt because he cannot afford the care charge since its introduction,,cost of living as a learnind disabled adult and accessing anything has mostly always got a higher cost,, heating the home,,laundry ect, my sons day centre has just tripled the cost of lunch from £1.09 to £3.09 per day, added to the £28 weekly charge that is over £43 per week my son would have to pay from his benefits just to get the support for 5hrs per day,, which gives me a short break in my unpaid caring role,, my son requires 24hr care and cannot be left alone,,my son does live and breath outside of the day centre support that he gets and this is something thats completely forgot,,

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

Yes

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?

the only thing that should be consistent is that there should be NO charge for non-residential care

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

Yes

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?

financially my son is now in debt of over £2,000 pounds in care charges that he cannot afford to pay,,, my son has attended a day centre for learning disabled adults for 10yrs and in just 1yr since the introduction of personalisation in glasgow this is the outcome,,debt,,the implications to myself as his mum and unpaid carer are that i am unable to work or hold down a job because of his health needs as he cannot always attend day centre due to his health so i cant pay this for him,,,and no matter how i try work his esa out so that he is able to have heat,food, clothing, some activities. the real implication is that the debt keeps getting higher and i await more threatening demand letter from glasgow city council which also threatens to stop my sons support,,wait even for my son and myself to be took to court,, the worry waiting to see what will happen is very stressful as not only an unpaid carer but as my sons mother,,,

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?

Undecided

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

there should be no charges for non-residential support/care,,, because in most cases anyone that actually requires or receives this there is a 100% chance that there is an unpaid carer doing most of the support/care in all the other hours of the day and night,,my son requires 24hrs support,,on a good health week he goes to his day centre for 25hrs of the week, i as his unpaid carer, support/care for my adult son around 150hrs of that same week,, the support of 25hrs is as much for my son as for me,,its the little respite i get to help me charge my batteries and get on with supporting/caring.