

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)	Helen McAleer
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 support my daughter who as severely brain damaged at birth. Amanda now receives a few hours care in our home and pays our council 85 per cent of her assessed disposable income for a few showers per week.

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

Cosla have not helped in any way over the past few years as the charges have gone up and up.

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?

If you are in need of support, you need that support whether you live in Shetland or Dumfries.

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).

Social care really just takes you up to the level you would require to have a meaningful life without a disability.

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?

Our daughter will never suffer as long as we have a pound in our pocket but she would not be totally reliant on us. Her other three siblings are able to support themselves. Why not Amanda?

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?

No significant implications

Please explain your answer. If you answered Negative, please suggest any ways this impact could be minimised or avoided.

Some people do not want to support anyone and have no perception of the pitfalls of being disabled. Some people who have a conscience will see the justice. You cannot legislate to change the minds of the former group!

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

Society will be judged by how we treat the least able. Have we moved on in the centuries since that statement was made by Burke?