


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)	Terri McCue
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

For people whose only income is benefits there should be no charge. The income they have and the budgets they get are little enough without being charged on top.

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

Glasgow City Council, in particular, are one local authority who are not assessing a person's ability to pay any charge. They are not taking any disability related expenditure into account. So either there should be legislation to address this issue or no charge should be made at all

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?

An advantage would be clarity and there would be an explanation for any charge which was levied. At the moment everyone is asked for the same regardless of income

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).

Most people requiring social care struggle to survive on benefits without being asked for a charge towards services

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 Bill were passed it would be a great deal off my mind. At the moment my son cannot afford to pay the charge he is being asked for. Despite this I am still being told it must be paid. So far I have withheld payment but if worst comes to worst I will have to pay this on behalf of my adult son

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?

All I can reiterate is that most people cannot afford to pay this charge and it is causing great financial hardship. Family members are being forced into taking on this charge on behalf of their cared for person