

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)

██████████

Name of your organisation (if applicable - otherwise leave blank)

Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance

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 my organisation

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

The SIAA believe all social care should be free to everyone who needs it in Scotland

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

The SIAA believes that legislation will help address issues around different practices amongst Local Authorities. Legislation will give people a legal right which they will be able to challenge if it is not

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

available.

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 differences in service provision and the quality of service do vary across Scotland and we believe that this issue should be addressed. The result of removing all charges would mean that social care was equitable across Scotland, however we would be concerned if the criteria for accessing free social care was tightened and therefore limited.

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

Undecided

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).

We are not sure if all social care services should be free.

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?

We know there will potentially be many budgetary implications for LA but not for our organisation directly.

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

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

We are unsure about the equality implications of this proposed bill, we know that disabled people and people with long term conditions experience inequality and discrimination everyday. Therefore it is imperative that a thorough impact assessment is carried out that fully involves the people who will be impacted by the proposed bill.

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

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N/A