

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)

Western Isles Carers, Users & Supporters Network (WICUSN)

Your Job Title (if applicable - otherwise leave blank)

████████████████████

Contact details (please provide at least one of: email, telephone number, postal address) (mandatory)

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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

Currently personal care is free to those under 65 years WICUSN would like this to be extended to under 65 years. Currently the under 65s are subject to age discrimination which would not be tolerated if it was vice versa.

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

It needs to be written clearly into legislation and clear guidance as to implementation issued to local authorities and any official of any local authority found to have advocated for the local implementation of any policy that is contrary to the legislation should be held to account. Without legislation and enforced adherence to it, COSLA or individual councils will be dictating the rules,

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 advantage of consistency across Scotland set by Government would be that everyone would be treated the same wherever they live getting rid of the postcode lottery. If the Government should recognise the extra cost of living in an Island or remote and rural area then they could build this in to the basic disregard for that type of area. Local authorities should not be allowed to put their own interpretation and twist on the law.

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

No Response

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?

No Response

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 Response

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

No Response