The future of the Independent Living Fund

Tell us what you think

July 2012
Important

Green writing

In this easy-read booklet we sometimes explain what words mean.

The first time we mention any of these words, it is in **bold green** writing. Then we write what the words mean in a blue box. If any of the words are used later in the booklet, we show them in *normal green* writing.

These words and what they mean are also in a Word List at the back of the booklet.
Contents

What this booklet is about ........................................... 5
About the Independent Living Fund ......................... 6
The questions .......................................................... 9
    Question 1................................................................. 9
    Question 2................................................................. 10
    Question 3................................................................. 11
    Question 4................................................................. 12
    Question 5................................................................. 13
Repying to the questions ............................................. 15
Word list ................................................................. 16
Notes ................................................................. 17
The future of the Independent Living Fund Tell us what you think
What this booklet is about

The government knows that disabled people think that the **Independent Living Fund** is very important.

**Independent Living Fund**

This is money for disabled people who need extra help to keep living at home.

But disabled people cannot join the **Independent Living Fund** any more.

The government will keep helping disabled people who use the **Independent Living Fund** at the moment, until 2015.
About the Independent Living Fund

The Independent Living Fund was set up in 1988. It helped to give disabled people choice and control over the care they get.

The government would like to close the Independent Living Fund in 2015. This is because the government wants local councils to look after care and support in their local areas.

Care and support

Care and support are the services and other things that help people live full, independent, active and healthy lives.
The future of the Independent Living Fund

Tell us what you think

The government thinks that giving people care only through **personal budgets** will be better for people than using the Independent Living Fund as well.

### Personal budget

This tells a disabled person how much money they can spend on their **care and support** services. It also shows how the personal budget was worked out.

Local councils would still need to work out the **care and support** needs of those people who use the Independent Living Fund at the moment.

Before the Independent Living Fund passed details of its customers to the local councils, they would look at everyone’s details together to see what the people’s **care and support** needs are.
The future of the Independent Living Fund

Tell us what you think

The government knows that disabled people may think that life would be difficult if the Independent Living Fund closed down. But the government would try to make sure that this is done in such a way that people would have no need to worry.

The government will give local councils extra money to help meet the needs of people who use the Independent Living Fund.

We need to find out how the Independent Living Fund affects people’s lives.

We also need to find out which parts of the Independent Living Fund make the most difference.
The future of the Independent Living Fund

Tell us what you think

The questions

Question 1

From 2015, the government wants disabled people’s care and support needs to be paid for by local councils and will give councils extra money to meet the needs of Independent Living Fund users. This would mean the end of the Independent Living Fund in 2015. Do you agree with this?
Question 2

At the moment, people get some help from the Independent Living Fund and some help from local councils.

What big challenges would people have to deal with if only local councils are meeting their care and support needs? How can we make this easier for people?
The future of the Independent Living Fund Tell us what you think

Question 3

If we closed the Independent Living Fund, how would this affect local councils and how will it affect care and support services?

How could we make this easier for local councils and care and support services?
The future of the Independent Living Fund Tell us what you think

Question 4

Some people, who have been getting help from the Independent Living Fund since before 1993, do not get any help from their local council.

What will we find hard when trying to make sure that these people can use all the local council’s services and get help with their care and support needs?

How can we make sure this happens?
Question 5

What is the best way for the Department for Work and Pensions, the Independent Living Fund and the local councils to work with and talk to the Independent Living Fund users between now and 2015?

How can the Independent Living Fund work with each local council if the government decides to close down the Independent Living Fund?
The future of the Independent Living Fund  Tell us what you think

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the things that have been written in this booklet?
Replieding to the questions

The best way to reply to the consultation is through our online consultation page as this will make sure that we get and record your reply straight away. The consultation page is on the DWP website at www.dwp.gov.uk/future-of-ilf

You can also email your reply to the consultation to ilf.consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Or you can post replies to this address

ILF Consultation Team
Ground floor
Caxton House
Tothill Street
London SW1A 9NA

Please make sure that we get your reply by 10 October 2012.
Word list

Care and support

Care and support are the services and other things that help people live full, independent, active and healthy lives.

Independent Living Fund

This is money for disabled people who need extra help to keep living at home.

Personal budget

This tells a disabled person how much money they can spend on their care and support services. It also shows how the personal budget was worked out.
You may use the words in this booklet in any way you want to as long as you make sure you use them correctly.

The Open Government Licence covers the use of the words. The only thing you cannot use are the logos.

If you want to know a bit more about the Open Government Licence or if you need some help to understand what we have said, the website which tells you more about the Open Government Licence is

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence

Or you can write to

The National Archives
Kew
London
TW9 4DU

Or email your questions to

psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

If you want to read a copy of this booklet online you can find it at www.dwp.gov.uk/future-of-ilf
If you need more of these easy-read reports, please contact us. Our address is shown below. Easy-read reports are free.

If you want the full reports written in English, you can buy them at TSO bookshops. TSO is sometimes called The Stationery Office. You can also get the full reports in English free at

- www.dwp.gov.uk/consultations/

Copies of the full reports can be made available in other formats on request. Contact details are below.

ILF Consultation Team
Ground Floor
Caxton House
Tothill Street
London
SW1A 9NA

e-mail: ilf.consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Please contact us if you have any other problems getting the report.

© Crown Copyright 2012
Published by the Department for Work and Pensions
July 2012