

## About the questions

*Ref No 391*

On the next few pages there are questions that we would like you to give us your answers to.

This consultation starts on 6 December 2010 and will end on 14 February 2011.

Send your replies to

DLA Reform Team  
1st Floor  
Caxton House  
Tothill Street  
London  
SW1H 9NA

*Rec'd  
10/2/11*

Or you can email your reply to  
[consultation.dlareform@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:consultation.dlareform@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)



## And finally, thank you

Thank you for taking the time to look at this booklet and taking part in the consultation.

## Questions

### Question 1

What things stop disabled people joining in with other people and living full, active and independent lives?

Not having the correct support in  
place to enable individual access  
local activities.

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### Question 2

What parts of Disability Living Allowance do you think we should keep?

I think you should leave  
the DLA as it is.

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### Question 3

What extra things do disabled people need to spend money on?

- Support about the house.
  - Buying aids / adaptations that not available through Social Services.
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### Question 4

The new benefit will have 2 amounts for each of the 2 parts of the benefit. Do you think this will make the benefit easier to understand and also easier for us to run?

Do you think just having the 2 amounts for each part will cause any problems?

Keeping the 2 amounts for each part will not cause problems. If people guided from start on how to use allowance.

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## Question 5

Do you think some health conditions or disabilities should allow people to get an amount of the benefit automatically?

Or do you think that all claims should be based on the needs of the person asking for the benefit?

The assessment should be done on an individual basis depending on needs, but if someone has conditions with them this should automatically be allocated.

## Question 6

How can we make sure that disabled people who most need the new benefit can get it?

What activities or actions are the most important to live an independent life?

- Being able to get out and be able to socialise.
- Have agency locally deal with applications - e.g. LAC - Service (Local Area Coordination)

## Question 7

How can we make sure that the new benefit takes into account the way a person's health condition can change?

Make sure individuals are assessed on regular basis - maybe six months/ yearly.

## Question 8

When a person makes a claim to the new benefit, should we take account of any aids or adaptations that they use?

What aids and adaptations should we take into account?

Should we only take aids and adaptations into account if the person already uses them? Or should we take aids and adaptations into account that a person could use and get hold of easily?

- Yes.
- Make sure general adaptations are covered for eg walk in showers if required
- No - this is something that need to be also assessed regularly

### Question 9

How could we make the way a person asks for benefit better.  
For example

- How could we make the claim form easier to fill in?
- How could we tell people about the new benefit so that they know what the benefit is for and who is likely to get the benefit?

- Questionare claim forms still for benefit but look at making form not so many questions and not as long to fill in e.g. amount pages.

### Question 10

Who are the best people to tell us about the needs of the person asking for benefit?

What information will we need to make it clear what the person can and cannot do?

- Individual themselves.
- People that work close with them  
eg care.
- Family members

## Question 11

An important part of the new benefit may be talking face to face with an independent person about how well you can do the things you need to do to take part in everyday life.

What good things and bad things may this bring?

Is there any time when it would not be right to say that a person had to meet an independent person face to face, either in the person's own home or somewhere else?

- Would like the face to face but preferably with someone I am already working with.

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## Question 12

What should we use to decide how often we should look at a claim again and check it?

Should the way we look at a claim again depend on the needs of the person and their health condition or disability?

- Speak to individuals, depend on disability.
- Some health conditions can deteriorate rapidly and more help required.

## Question 13

The new benefit will be easier for people to understand, so we will expect people to tell us when things change in their lives.

How can we get people to tell us about the changes in their lives?

- Have regular reviews of DLA - don't make it indefinite.
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## Question 14

What types of help and advice are people who will ask for the new benefit likely to need?

Would it help if we told people to get help and advice and where to get it from?

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## Question 15

How do disabled people pay for their aids and adaptations at the moment?

Should disabled people be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost?

Some costs for aids/adaptations  
come from individual's own budget

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## Question 16

What are the main differences we should think about when we are dealing with claims for children instead of adults?

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## Question 17

How important or useful has Disability Living Allowance been in getting people to use other services or to get other benefits?

What can we do to make things better?

At the moment people who get Disability Living Allowance automatically get help from other benefits and services, like the Blue Badge scheme and the Warm Front scheme.

What would it mean to disabled people if they did not automatically get help from these other benefits or services?

- Services and other benefits  
should still be automatically advised  
as an individual might not always  
know about blue badge for example  
and not apply.

## Question 18

What information about the disabled person could we share with other services or government departments to stop the disabled person having to tell lots of people the same thing?

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## Question 19

How would our ideas for the new benefit affect different equality groups? For example, the equality groups looking at disability, age, race, gender, **sexual orientation** and religion and belief.

### Sexual orientation

This is about whether a person is

- heterosexual – sexually attracted to people of the other sex.
- lesbian – a woman who is sexually attracted to women.
- gay – a man who is sexually attracted to men.
- bisexual – sexually attracted to men and women.
- asexual – not sexually attracted to men or women

- each individual is entitled to  
claim for DLA - regardless of their  
gender / race etc

## Question 20

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about our plans?

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