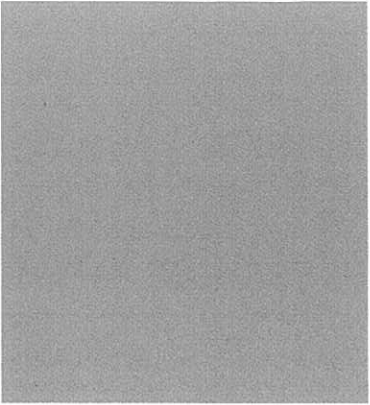


11th February 2011



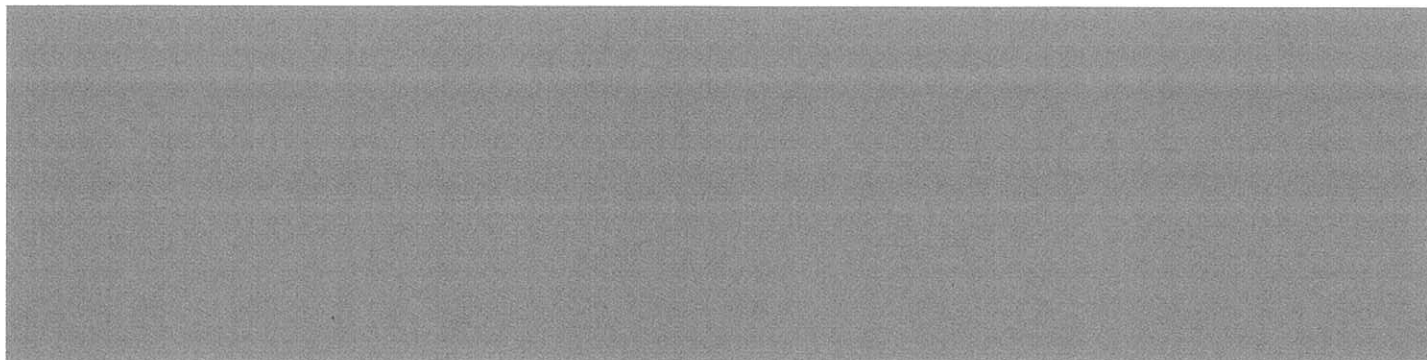
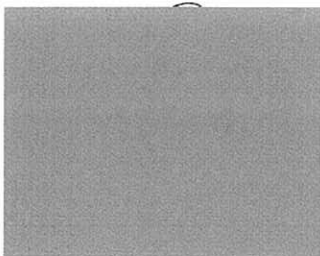
Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Disability Living Allowance Reform – Easy Read Consultation
Document Question 15**

These are the individual questions which attendees at our event answered independently – please note the questions are the same but the numbering different from the Easy Read consultation document.

This question is Q.15 from the Easy Read Consultation Document.

Yours sincerely,



5. 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?

How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

Think there should be a choice for the person concerned if they wish - ie make their own decision.

Presently, do not have to pay for aids.

However, may need to consider a (shortly) purchase of a "caravan-type" chemical toilet for bedroom (incontinence) to assist with not walking a distance to bathroom for 86/87 year old.

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

Some we have had free - other items we have paid for -

yes - a one off payment - stop the long waiting period to get things done -

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

1) This doesn't apply to me
so I do not think it's right
for me to comment on this.

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

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How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

IF YOU ARE LUCKY TO GET ANYTHING. I THINK IT SHOULD BE A SMALL CHARGE, SAY DEPOSIT BECAUSE IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO THE PERSON, YOU HAVE TO RETURN, IT WOULD NO GOOD FOR ME, AND GET SOME OF DEPOSIT BACK.

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

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How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

Wheelchair made for me
with S/frunt wheels I do not have to pay

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

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

*Son has learning disability so doesn't apply.
Physically OK*

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

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

(A) Mobility Finance/Bank Loan

(B) Yes, but depends on the cost of the product,
i.e.

Were as a Shower unit could cost £ Thousands!

A Jar opener could only be £pounds!

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

- Wheelchair from 'Sandwell Wheelchair Services', however Sports wheelchair borrowed or to be purchased.
- The person receiving the benefit should be able to make the decision on how to use it in the most beneficial way for them.
- ~~Paid~~ Paid for shower seating and garden ramps.
- Tin opener.

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

From what I understand many people don't have to pay for their aids & adaptations. But I do believe if you require an aid or adaptation that should be given to you for free. The government is trying to make the lives of people living with a disability better and to live independently. So ~~these~~ such items should be given out free to those who require.

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

Have you seen the price of some of the things
People go without because of price

Some people need a scooter to get them
out there not much left for other things
if paying for one of them

Some companies take advantage of
disabled because they know the
need to be independent

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

THEY SHOULD GET THEM ALL
FREE THERE SHOULD BE NO
CHARGE IF YOU ARE DISABLED ON
HIGHER RATE OF DLA

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

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

NHS - hearing aids

Pay for liquid level indicators (vibrate on deaf + blind)

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

N/A

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AIDS (CANE ETC) FROM THE "INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTRE"
- HAVENT HAD TO PAY FOR THEM.

WE FEEL BENEFIT SHOULD BE USED FOR A ONE-OFF COST FOR AN AID OR ADAPTATION - DISABLED PEOPLE WHO CANNOT WORK, WHO RELY ON SUCH AIDS FOR EVERYDAY LIVING, CANNOT AFFORD SUCH ITEMS?

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I, do buy or to hire them

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At the moment we use benefit to pay for items e.g. Computer.

Downstairs Shower room was added to our mortgage.

Had to buy double duvet & covers as child kept knocking off duvet in night and not able to understand about putting back. A double duvet provided more weight & we could tuck it in to bed.

When buying a bed, benefit enabled us to pay for an head board with no

Sharp edges/^{poors} etc. As she use to jump endlessly up & down on bed and asked injury.

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

- We paid for a wet room to be installed by re-mortgaging our house to help our child - Any help in this area would be useful.

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

Yes.

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

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

N/A.

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

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How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

People should be able to use all available benefits to help make their life easier by purchasing aid and equipment for their specialist needs

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① How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

① I HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY FORTUNATE. I HAVE HAD SEVERAL SMALL AIDS FREE AND A FEW OTHERS AS FAMILY PRESENTS. BECAUSE OF MY INCOME SITUATION I HAVE HAD BOTH KITCHEN AND BATHROOM ADAPTATIONS DONE FREE OF CHARGE BY THE COUNCIL. MY TIMING WAS GOOD (ALTHOUGH IT TOOK 2½ YRS FROM REQUEST TO COMPLETION!) FROM NOW ON I DOUBT IF GRANTS FOR OTHERS WILL BE SO READILY AVAILABLE.

② I DO NOT KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE NEW BENEFIT AND WHAT IT IS SUPPOSED TO COVER. I THINK THAT GENERALLY SPEAKING THE COUNCIL WOULD BENEFIT FROM STILL GIVING FREE AIDS BUT HAVING SOME SORT OF DEPOSIT ~~OR VOUCHER~~ PAID WHICH WOULD BE REFUNDABLE WHEN THEY ARE NO LONGER NEEDED SO THAT THE EQUIPMENT WOULD BE RETURNED. I HAVE SEEN MANY AIDS DISGUARDED, NOT EVEN RECYCLED I BELEIVE AT THE MOMENT IF BENEFITS/SAVINGS ARE ACCESSED AND PEOPLE FALL BELOW CERTAIN LEVELS THESE THINGS ARE FREE AND ANYONE ABOVE HAS TO CONTRIBUTE OR PAY IN FULL

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How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

Aids are free, and Adaptations are means tested

I Don't know anything about new Benefit so I cannot comment.

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

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

MOST OF OUR AIDS ARE FREE STICKS AND KITCHEN AIDS ETC., IF YOU WANT SOMETHING DIFFERENT THEN WE HAVE TO PAY.

I THINK IT WOULD BE BETTER IF WE COULD CHOOSE WHAT WE WANT THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT KINDS WALKING STICKS. A LOT LIGHTER AND IN DIFFERENT COLOURS WHICH YOU DO NOT GET A CHOICE KNOW BUT IF YOU COULD BUY THEM THEN IT WOULD MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE A BIT OF SOCIOLOGY, AS FOR KITCHEN AIDS ETC., IT WOULD BE BETTER TO BUY WHAT YOU WANT TO MAKE NIT ALL MATCH IN YOUR KITCHEN THEN IT DOES NOT LOOK SO OUT OF PLACE. (LESS OF A DISABILITY AID.)

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

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

At the moment I have my aids and adaptations on loan. I feel it should stay the same why should we have to use the benefit to pay for these because the benefit should be used to get around for the cost of this and as it is now the motability part for getting around and the care part for caring.

5. 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?

How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

The equipment costs for a person with severe physical disability are extremely high. For example -
Standing frame £4000.00, Supportive seating - £1600.00
Supportive shower chair - £1800.00, Specialist seating in wheelchair - £1600.00

Some of it has been provided by NHS, many things have to be funded by charities. Charity funding is only available, in many cases, for people under the age of 18.

Those with severe physical disabilities will need a huge benefit to cover the basic necessary equipment required to live at home.

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

AIDS ARE AVAILABLE BUT DO NOT SEEM TO COME THROUGH THE SYSTEM QUICKLY ENOUGH. CONSEQUENTLY PEOPLE PAY FOR THEM. IE FROM PENSIONS OR SAVINGS SOME AIDS IE STAIRLIFTS ARE MEANS TESTED.

BATHROOM ADAPTATIONS STAIRRAILS OUTSIDE RAILS, TAKE TIME FROM THE INITIAL ASSESSMENTS.

ALL OF THESE AIDS HELP TO KEEP PEOPLE IN THEIR OWN HOME AND ABLE TO KEEP THE CARE COSTS DOWN BY FREEING UP HOSPITAL / ^{CARE} HOMES. WHERE COSTS ARE EXTORTIONATE

(ALSO) CARE HOMES SHOULD BE F.O.C

FOR ENGLAND & NOT JUST SCOTLAND NEEDS TO BE SORTED - AS IT IS DISCRIMINATION

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

Some items at the moment come through stores or soc services which supply them for free on loan. will this continue.

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

WE HAVE PAID FOR THE FOLLOWING OUT OF OUR GENERAL SAVINGS.

- 1/ STROLLER WITH SEAT
- 2/ MOBILITY ELECTRIC SCOOTER
- 3/ WHEELCHAIR
- 4/ WALKING STICKS 'TWO'
- 5/ ZIMMER FRAME
- 6/ HAND GRABBER
- 7/ HAND RAILS
- 8 BATH SEAT.

NOTE:

MY CAR IS PURCHASED OR RENTED THROUGH THE MOBILITY SCHEME, WHERE IT IS PAID FOR THROUGH MY HIGHER RATE OF DISABILITY BENEFIT.

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

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

There are clearly various ways, e.g. Disabled Facility Grants, free provision through Social Services or the NHS, from savings, through charities, etc. Does not seem appropriate to tag this onto PIPs.

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

I HAD TO PURCHASE A PORTABLE NEBULISER AT
A COST OF £150.

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

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How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

Most aids and adaptations are currently paid for centrally and we feel this should continue. If the new benefit is given once a year this should only be used for costs which can be anticipated, such as day centres and respite care.

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

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How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

Critcher

Electric wheelchair - gives to
me
through assessment

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

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How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

Equipment costs for a severely physically disabled person are extortionate.

Supportive seating / bathing hoists / shower chairs / wheel chairs.

There is some brilliant equipment out there if only you could afford it.

5. **How do disabled people pay for their aids and adaptation moment?**

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

How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

USE PAYMENT

OR SAVE THEN PAY

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

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Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

*BOUGHT HAND AIDS AND WALKING STICK
HAND SUPPORTS SHOULD BE ON NHS.*

5. **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?

How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener. YES!

5. 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?

How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

Adaptations for use of car are paid for via Motability.

Aids around home are provided by the council

The cost of such items can be very high and these items are required by disabled persons. If people don't have the money then it would mean not being able to drive for example or be in a worse position.

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How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

Most aids can be had from the local "Aids and Adaptations" department

The disabled person should not have to use all the benefit in a "one off" cost

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

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How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

- Home loans
- Social services
- NHS

• Government grants

how are aids & adaptations currently paid for.

- It should be allowed to pay for one-off items however must be aware of budgets for other items.

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

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How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

NO help needed. thank you

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How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

I don't pay for my particular aids due to my age and the kindness of Sandwell council but I think there has to be some sort of system and some management of funds so that people don't get into difficulties with new types of funding and are made aware of all the issues surrounding purchase and of goods and services on a restricted budget which may cover a lengthy time frame.

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How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

Yes disabled people should have their aids paid for from their benefit. Most people on disability are not always on the ~~7000~~ high but low rate. This means costly things cannot be paid for.

5. 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?

How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

Do you think you should be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost such as an aid or adaptation? For example a special chair, accessible shower unit or jar opener.

They are paid for centrally via benefits/day care this should continue & emergency funding should be available for unforeseen occasions that can't be planned.

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How do you currently get your aids and adaptations i.e. walking stick? Do you have to pay for them? And if so how do you pay for them?

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NO PAYMENT THROUGH MCALLENS
@ VISION SERVICES AT INDEPENDANT LIVING CENT

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N/A.

But I think you should get big items like special chair or shower unit paid for because these can cost thousands, small items you can pay for.

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It is funded by government agencies or Local Primary Care Trusts. Other have to pay privately or rely on charity trusts or funds. I feel that there needs to be more information so that people can make more informed and financial choices, before paying any money out.

I feel that should be an option ^{of} requiring aids with benefits enquirements.

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NO.

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These items only come to us if you have carers coming in. This beats the object of living independant.

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Yes.

Own pocket

Grants.

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yes i have to pay for All my aids and repairs to wheel chair and trolley and that comes from D.L.A.

yes i think we should be allowed to have one off payments.

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*Payer for all of my DLA - no other income
yes I believe I should be able to spend
the money on what I want.*

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many times you feel you need to buy your own as having used equipment from Soc. Services is not what you want.

The time taken to implement larger adaptations such as Bathroom & Kitchen is years and not at all helpful to a Person in need now

why don't Soc Services always Supply Electric wheelchairs instead of manual ones. In this day & age I see so many very elderly ~~people~~ couples where one Partner is trying to push their Partner in a manual wheelchair - where an electric chair would so help them to cope.

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Pay using DLA.

fine to pay for one-off costs. as long as does not affect other benefits or Personal Independence Payments.

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Sometimes aids & adaptations are provided by social services, others we have to pay for. Its different for everybody depending on their needs.

Yes disabled people should be allowed to use their benefit to pay for one off costs if they need to. It is their benefit they have a right to use it to their best advantage.

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At present aids and adaptations are paid for by a variety of mean, but increasingly by Personal Budget.

Yes, the new benefit should be allowed for for one off purchases.

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Yes

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→ Accessible Shower - cost paid by Social Service.

→ Walking Stick - provided by Ideal for All.

• Couldn't pay for aids + adaptations if they weren't provided by Social Services or Ideal for All.

If weren't paid for then would need more money.

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Don't have to pay for aids/adaptation at the moment.

Leave the DLA benefit as it was and let social services issue aids and adaptation rather than going through DWP/benefit system.

Who is going to pay for repairs and maintenance cost?