

Received
12/11/11

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DWP About changing Disability Living Allowance

About the questions

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

Or you can email your reply to
consultation.dlareform@dwp.gsi.gov.uk



& ^{PS} If carers were encouraged to take NVQ's we would equip them for a future & give them qualifications to enable them to get a job once their caring role ceases.

If we are prepared to pay a nursing home £400pw to look after a disabled child/adult or old person why can't the state make "caring a job" & pay a good wage to the carer some respect are doing. & give them dignity & for what they recognise their worth — don't insult



And finally, thank you them with £51.00pw it's not even NMW & they deserve better — income support & "careers night" cover their needs" but it doesn't give them a

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

allow them to work & pay for their way

Questions

Question 1

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

Lack of support & lack of independent living accommodation as they are low income getting a house is v difficult.

Question 2

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

Caring but as most people have a car & pay tax why should a disability bar wheelchair user be any different?

Question 3

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

Carer's & being cared for - lots of carers give up their lives to care for a disabled person & £51.00pw is not even NMW for 35 hours !!!

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?

It already is two parts. I think you should see the customer & assess their needs as if you aren't any good with writing & forms you can miss "those with need" --

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?

Yes — Aspergers, Autism, downs Syndrome
Cancer etc → they are lifelong &
filling out a 69 page form every 1, 2 or 5
years is ridiculous — they can't be
cured!!!
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?

Support into Independent living, support
for carer's caring for person.
Ensuring that person with disability
has access to visiting officer to help
with form filling.

Question 7

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

Send out a review form & if it's something like a back problem get them seen by a doctor to assess them.

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?

No - aids are just that "to aid" a person to be independent without them they wouldn't/might not be able to do the activities of daily living

ie two stair rails to help them up the stairs - one would make them unstable, at risk of falling & vulnerable & possibly unable to get upstairs

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?

Cut out the repeat questions & silly one about "what you'd do if" — most disabled people are fighting to live & survive — help them & give them what they need.

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?

Parents, Carers & those close to person. My daughter has Aspergers & rarely sees Dr so he has no idea about impact of her disability on her & our lives. --- & paying them

16 £38.50 for a signature when they have no idea is a waste of money

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?

If they are dying of cancer & it should be accepted esp. if supported by GP/specialists signature. But I feel talking to a person about their needs with a carer with them. would be a great idea.

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?

If it's a long term disability - down's, Spina bifida, autism, etc what is the point? by adulthood they should have reached their full potential but can get set back by lack of support.
Question 13 So by 18yrs - no reviews.

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?

Send out letters to review benefit, visiting officers to follow up possible fraud cases, check with GPs treatment & status of cost annually.

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?

Specialist DLA helplines / visiting Officers.
as most of the support / advice times are
voluntary & usually booked up &
people are unable to see someone.

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?

Often themselves, sometimes via Social
Services often if they have excess
savings they are expected to use them
to provide care & for adaptations i.e.
stairlifts.

Question 16

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

Children are usually dependant on their parents for many things whereas an adult is supposed to be/get independant - therefore a child's needs need to be more than their "able peers".

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?

Lack of parking close to shops enabling the cust to try & remain independant. I feel everything should be done to help someone who is trying to be independant & not relying on support to live a dignified life. If they are dependant on a carer the cust & carer should be rewarded for the job they are doing - make caring a full