

Rec'd 31/1/11

27th January 2011.

Dear Sir / Madam,

I enclose my ~~for~~ reply
as a physically disabled person to
the 22 questions on CAA Reform.

I hope you find my answers
useful. I received the questions and
your address from Spinal Injuries Scotland

Yours sincerely,

Access & egress from buildings. Lowering pavements, ramps blocked by cars. Able to use a wheelchair on pavements. Broken glass & nails left on pavements.

Stigma. Feeling frightened to go out alone. Discrimination by Employers and a minority of society who think we should not be heard or seen in public.

- ② The middle rate of the care component should be kept, as three rates gives a fairer opportunity to people to get the correct rate and not lose out by being transferred to a new low rate. As this penalises the most vulnerable in society.
- ③ Heating, clothes for those that are incontinent, taxis, holidays, special diets, social inclusion activities, housing, wheelchairs where they have purchased themselves.
- ④ No three rates for care component of DLA is fairer and ensures appropriate level of support. People on middle rates would lose financially and morally it would be wrong and against the government's duty of care.
- ⑤ Most claims should be based on the needs & circumstances of the individual applying. However, I'm sure that there are exceptions such as cerebral palsy, some forms of muscular dystrophy, some severe levels of spinal injury.

- ⑥ Social inclusion, self-support group, football stadiums, theatres, cinemas, shops, restaurants, activities, where a good quality of life has been achieved.
- ⑦ Calculating whether the condition is short-term & long term; medical advances in the future, may mean a re-assessment is needed.
- ⑧ Elbow crutches, walking sticks, wheelchairs. Ramps installed for entry to house or home. The assessment should take into account aids and adaptations where a person has them or whether the person might be eligible for and can obtain.
- ⑨ Clear block capitals on form. Easy to understand, plain English usage.
- ⑩ A General Practitioner (Doctor), Community Psychiatric Nurse, Social Worker, Psychiatrist would be best placed to provide a clear assessment. A medical report from a G.P., Psychiatrist, Letters from a G.P.N. & Social worker.
- ⑪ Should cut down on fraudulent claims. However some may not remember all their ailments in the presence of a stranger in a short space of time. Where medical evidence is overwhelming that the claimant satisfies all criteria for the benefits it may cause undue stress & worry to that individual.

- ② MEDICAL EVIDENCE SHOULD BE USED TO SET THE FREQUENCY OF REVIEWS. REVIEWS SHOULD BE TAKING PLACE ONCE A YEAR OR LONGER IF REQUIRED.
- ⑬ EXPLAIN WHAT CHANGES REQUIRE TO REPORTED IN A CLEAR AND PLAIN ENGLISH LEAFLET.
- ⑭ WHAT CRITERIA EXCLUDE THEM FROM THE BENEFITS.
- ⑮ PERHAPS ACCESS TO ADVICE & SUPPORT WHERE APPROPRIATE WOULD HELP THE MINORITY OF CLAIMANTS WHO OTHERWISE NOT TAKE ACTION. ADVICE WOULD HAVE TO COME FROM A WELFARE RIGHTS OFFICER, SOCIAL WORKER OR MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL. CONTRADICTION OR WRONG ADVICE WOULD BE NEEDED TO BE AVOIDED.
- ⑯ NHS SUPPLY MY ELBOW CRUTCHES. WHEELCHAIR WAS BOUGHT BY MYSELF SO I COULD VISIT BOWLING CLUB WHERE I HAVE A SPECIAL WHEELCHAIR WHICH CAN BE PUSHED UP & DOWN THE GREEN. ADAPTIONS TO MY RENTED ACCOMMODATION COMES FROM SOCIAL WORK IN THE FUTURE SHOULD MY CONDITION WORSEN. OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROVIDE A STICK FOR ME TO EAT MY FOOD EASIER. YES WHERE A WHEELCHAIR OR CAR IS NEEDED, DEFINATELY YES.

(17) AN ADULT OR GUARDIAN SHOULD BE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES
CHILDREN DON'T ALWAYS EXPRESS THEMSELVES AS ARTICULATEDLY AS ADULTS

(18) VERY IMPORTANT AND I GET A CBA CARD WHICH ALLOWS MY CAREER TO GET IN FOR FREE TO THE CINEMA ~~HEP~~ ~~ME~~ HEPPED ME GET ON THE RANGERS SUPPORTERS DISABLED CLUB WHICH GAVE ME FREE TICKETS TO TWO GAMES IN ONE SEASON. MAKE SURE NO BANK DETAILS ARE ON THE ENTITLEMENT LETTER OR PAGE. AS THIS IS NORMALLY PHOTOCOPIED FOR ENTITLEMENT TO CLUBS, CINEMAS, ETC.

(19) I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO ATTEND FOOTBALL MATCHES, CINEMA, SOCIAL WORKERS WOULD BE ~~HEP~~ ~~ME~~ ~~HEPPED~~ ~~ME~~ UNDER MORE PRESSURE TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS LIKE SOCIAL INCLUSION.

(20) INFORMATION FROM GP'S HOSPITAL CONSULTANTS, SOCIAL WORKERS COULD BE SHARED

(21) IT COULD DISCRIMINATE AGAINST PHYSICALLY DISABLED PEOPLE AND SOCIALLY EXCLUDE THEM FROM SOCIETY PERMANENTLY, ALSO IT WOULD BREAK THE PROMISE OF A "DUTY OF CARE" TO THE DISABLED PERSON BY THE GOVT.

(22)

I FIND IT HUMILIATING THAT
THE GOVT. WANTS TO SAVE
MONEY AT THE DISABLED PERSONS
EXPENSE AND ABUSE OF MY
HUMAN RIGHTS AS A DISABLED
PERSON. THE DUTY OF CARE
LIES WITH CENTRAL GOVT.