

9th February, 2011

Rec'd
14/2/11

Department of Works and Pensions

Dear Sir/Madam,

Disability Living Allowance is a Lifeline to Carers and the Disabled – It is imperative it is NOT changed to Personal Independence Allowance

I am very concerned indeed about the current situation on reforms; your consultation on changing Disability Living Allowance to the new benefit called Personal Independence Allowance: Which could lead to Vital Support being Withdrawn to the Disabled!

I am a carer to my daughter who suffers the severest form of perthes disease and is unable to walk at all/or weight bare due to her disability. Bone is rubbing on bone and cartilage is missing. She needs support by myself and uses her crutches to get from her bed to the toilet and is in extreme pain. She can only manage a very short distance on her crutches and then she needs to be in her wheelchair.

When using the shower she needs to sit on a supporting stool; she also needs continuous support in and out of the shower and with her clothing. She is unable to attend school due to the extreme pain and her severe mobility problems. I support her with her learning at home and she has tutors, however the pain is so severe. at times, it is impossible for her to be educated by the tutors.

She is on continuous medication every 4 hours tramadol, paracetamol and anti-inflammatory drugs. She is needing A full hip replacement, however we have been advised she will need to wait for between five and six years, until she is fully grown. My concern is that I depend financially on the D.L.A. allowance as I am unable to work as [redacted] needs me to care for her. Caring would be unaffordable for me.

A Key Factor many carers and disabled are concerned about is that on a good day a Medical Professional might assess the disabled person and NOT take into account A BAD day when they are in severe pain and fail to take into account the worst times In their assessment and the disabled NO LONGER GET VITAL CARE and SUPPORT!

I believe firmly that the Government should not been making cuts of £1 billion pounds to disability benefits because of the devastating consequences it would have on both carers and the disabled I believe that Carers Allowance must remain outside the Universal Credit.
Carers save the Country £87 billion pounds per year with the care we provide.

Another key concern is

The mobility allowance is imperative to us, it would be devastating for us to lose this; as Nicola has to attend hospitals, and generally to get around, and due to the severe pain and mobility problems she suffers, it would be impossible to manage Public Transport.

Without prejudice,

Yours sincerely,

