

Ref 412

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Consultation about changing Disability Living Allowance to a new benefit

Tell us what you think

December 2010



Easy Read

DWP

Department for
Work and Pensions

Questions

Question 1

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

If people with disabilities cannot get out
Health Conditions
problems with mobility
language barriers Communication difficulties

Question 2

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

The part which should be kept
is, to make sure the person
always receives the care and
support they need, for their individual needs
so they can continue to live an
independent life

Question 3

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

Clothes and footwear

Social life

Care & Support

Transport

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?

difficult to answer Question

Until it becomes effective

but I don't think it will cause
too many problems.

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 I think that all claims should be based on the needs of the person asking for the benefit as each person has individual needs

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?

By doing an assessment. ~~if means test~~
Being able to access activities that are available to people with disabilities in the community like
Go out ↙ meeting friends doing courses socializing
Being accepted and valued
How a person can get around
How a person can manage their daily needs
How a person can express themselves
looking after yourself

Question 7

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

By regularly looking at the benefit and checking to see if there has been any changes. This can be done by getting people to fill out forms & talking to people like doctors & carers.

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, the aids and adaptations taken into account should be wheelchairs, bathing aids, equipment etc to meet people's individual needs. Communication devices etc. I think it is important to take into account adaptations & aids that people can get hold of easily.

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?

By doing what you have done, and
Sending out this booklet asking people
what they feel and think is important
Booklets like this one, Internet, posters leaflets

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?

The person themselves if they are
able to, if not parents / carers
Health professionals doctors Social
Workers etc

medical information

¹⁶ Care plans / Whether the person
Support plans has carers

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?

• Opportunity to express myself and be heard face to face.

A certain level of anxiety as I would not know ^{what} to expect, and what questions would be asked.

yes if the person said they didn't want this to happen.

• if the person was incredibly vulnerable.
if the person had problems with communications
if the person had visual or hearing impairments..

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?

personal information
any previous assessments / reviews
meetings etc

yes in the event anything may have
changed.

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?

By making it clear to them.
In any further information.
It is important that people are
aware of this from the start.

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?

help with understand how it will work
help with communication if this is difficult
yes I believe it would help a lot if
people knew where to get help & advice
from

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?

most disabled people would get
there aids and adaptiongs free
depending on there personal needs

It depends on how much the
one of cost would be.

Question 16

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

Whether they are still living at home.

What age they are.

Whether they need support & care.
are they vulnerable or not

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?

Very useful as there are some people with disabilities that have no idea what is fully available to them.

It would mean that it would incur more cost to the individual like paying for parking etc.

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?

(Written Information)

I think a Care plan in place that tells you what that person needs are. This would be if the person agreed to it.

mobility needs - Transport walking aids
wheelchairs
Physical needs - Care & Support
Medical needs - medication, physios
or doctors nurses
Emotional needs
General well being
anxiety depression,
Confidence, anxiety
Selfworth Selfesteem

If all this information is written into a care plan. I think this may help. Obviously we have to respect the need for confidentiality.

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

I think everyone should be treated equally irrespective of disability age race, gender sexual orientation and religion. bearing this in mind I am not sure how your ideas would effect different equality groups

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

not at this moment.