

## About the questions

On the next few pages there are questions that we would like you to give us your answers to.

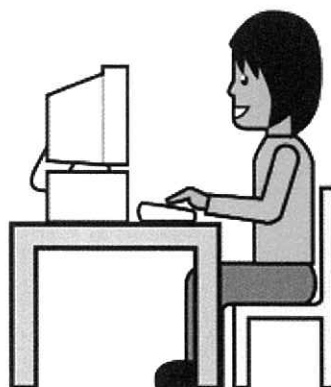
This **consultation** starts on 6 December 2010 and will end on 14 February 2011.

Send your replies to

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Or you can email your reply to  
[consultation.dlareform@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:consultation.dlareform@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)



## And finally, thank you

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

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## Questions

### Question 1

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

Unable to access community resources / work etc - physically

Reduced finances

Lack of support - family etc

### Question 2

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

Current DLA is appropriate - care + mobility

- not just about if people can manage - it is how they manage, the additional cost, time etc

### Question 3

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

Transport i.e. taxi's if buses/trains not possible

Heating

Assistance - i.e. shopping, household chores

Items to assist with or alleviate problems with disability

### 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 may make it difficult for some people to qualify for appropriate level - if border line will always receive lower amount - which is likely to cause hardship & difficulty - not much leeway if condition is one that changes gradually & over time

### 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?

Some long term health conditions that generate a great deal of dependency could well receive benefit automatically.

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### 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?

Have sufficient finances to be able to self care (with support)  
be able to access community resources & return to work  
People who have a disability do not want to be a burden to others - but being disabled ultimately costs

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### Question 7

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

Time limit claims - so that people need to reapply. Half the problem is that people have spent too long receiving DLA then feel unable to do with out it. Equally if you have a disability additional money is a life saver.

### Question 8

- Reviews Make review paperwork simpler.

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?

The difficulty is now that some aids now have to be purchased by the client/patient - if they have little or no finances this is obviously a problem and will limit their ability to be independent.

### 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?

fewer pages

Advertise - (be clear about criteria)

GP surgeries / hospitals  
Job Centres etc

### 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?

Medical experts / professionals involved in care  
Carers

Person themselves

Support Services

## 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?

- Causes anxiety & additional stress
- Difficulty getting to place for assessment
- + Independent person can actually see the difficulties
  - should have a more accurate & impartial assessment

## 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?

Depends on type of illness/disability - medical experts / doctors should be able to give an indication of expected / appropriate recovery time.

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## 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?

Make paperwork shorter & easier to complete  
Encourage people to see benefit a hopefully shorter term measure, but to ensure it is available long term if necessary

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## 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?

Clarity about what needs meet criteria for DLA  
How should claim + who can assist . How to appeal

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## 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?

DLA should be able to be used to pay of aids/adaps  
or services that a disabled person requires local  
authority making more + more cuts to services + people  
are expected to pay for help - how if they do not have  
the finances?

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## Question 16

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

Not sure

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## 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?

People would be even more isolated, restricted & made to feel disabled if unable to access benefits / services. Supposed to have moved towards social inclusion for all - this won't happen if people funds not provided. Social Services taking responsibility for less & less. Who does the shopping / housework / washing / ironing / accompanying people when going out etc. Money needed to pay for services via agencies

## 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?

Physical difficulties - but not reasons of  
information - people do not want info being  
passed around which may not be accurate or  
that they are unable to comment / disagree with

### 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

### Question 20

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

This benefit needs to go to those who are in need –  
essential in view of the cuts we are facing so that people  
can at least pay for services themselves. Renew to

22 ensure benefit is removed if need no longer present  
DA can provide support for people to regain their lives  
independence.