



Department
for Work &
Pensions

Correction of accidental errors

Consultation response

January 2015

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Introduction

On 17th November 2014, the Department for Work and Pensions launched an external consultation on a proposed legislative amendment to introduce a new procedure for correcting simple administrative errors, known as accidental errors, in decisions made in relation to a child maintenance calculation under the Child Support Act 1991.

The consultation document 'Correction of accidental errors' may be viewed at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/child-maintenance-correction-of-accidental-errors>

The consultation was available to view online from 17th November 2014 and was open to everyone. Stakeholders were also notified of the consultation by email and invited to comment.

A list of the stakeholders notified of the consultation by email is at **Annex B**.

The closing date for responses was 29th December 2014. Two responses were received. The Department would like to thank all respondents.

Responses to the Consultation

Of the two contacts received in response to the consultation, one was not relevant to the subject of the consultation.

The second contact in response to the consultation was received from the Law Society of Scotland, the content of which is shown at **Annex A**.

There were no objections to the proposed change.

Conclusion

Having carefully considered the responses to the consultation, we intend to introduce the proposed new measure in a package of legislative amendments, due in March 2015.

Annex A - Response to Individual Comments

	Comments	Response
1	<p>CHILD MAINTENANCE: CORRECTION OF ACCIDENTAL ERRORS CONSULTATION RESPONSE</p> <p>We refer to the above consultation which seeks to proposal to introduce a new procedure for correcting simple administrative errors in decisions made in relation to child maintenance calculations.</p> <p>The Law Society of Scotland always appreciates the opportunity to express its views on proposed law reform. The Society's Family Law Sub-Committee has considered the consultation and welcomes the proposed changes.</p>	<p>Thank you for responding to our consultation.</p>

Annex B - Stakeholders

The following Stakeholders were contacted as part of this consultation.

Barnardo's
Citizens Advice
Policy Exchange
SCOOP Aid
Resolution
The Children's Society
National Association for Child Support Action
One Plus One
National Family Mediation
bto Solicitors
Barnardo's
Barnardo's
Law Society
Mother's Union
Tavistock Centre for Couple Relationships
ManKind
Fatherhood Institute
Fife Gingerbread
Action for Children
Women's Aid
British Association of Social Workers
Action for Children
Resolution
Tavistock Centre for Couple Relationships
Working with Men
Refuge
Grandparents Plus
4 Children
Accord NI

Advice NI
Barnardo's NI
Child Contact Centres
Children in NI
Citizens Advice Bureau
Colin Neighbourhood Partnership
Disability Action
Early Years (Surestart)
Families Need Fathers NI
Family Mediation NI
(Foodbanks across NI)
Gingerbread NI
Health and Social Care Board