

DWP About changing Disability Living Allowance

About the questions

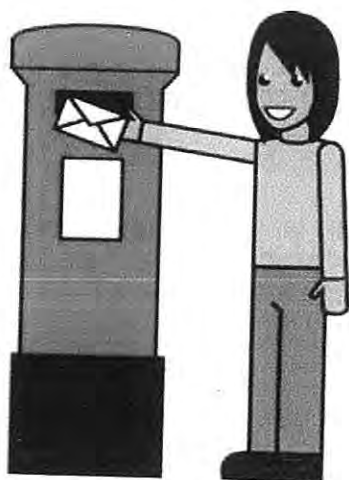
On the next few pages there are questions that we would like you to give us your answers to.

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

Send your replies to

DLA Reform Team
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Tothill Street
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Or you can email your reply to
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.

Questions

Question 1

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

Mobility, transport, comprehension,
not being able to be in large groups, concentration,
expense of today, knowledge of knowing
where groups are, needing one to one help.

Question 2

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

Both, because it affects each
disabled person differently.

Question 3

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

rent, council tax, heating bills, food, transport (some), clothes, footwear, any aids needed, support out with family,

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?

No, as this is what we have been used to.

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 do think that some health conditions or disabilities should be allowed the benefit automatically.

Severe conditions + disabilities and also from a young age.

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?

It will have to be on individual basis and application.

Money is important, accommodation, advice or help on every matter such as DLA, groups, support.

Question 7

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

A Review every so many years.

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?

Both should be considered,
Walking aids, Showers, wall rails, ramp
beds, to name but a few.

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?

Simplify the questions.

Doctors, Nurses, Job Centres, Social Workers, homeparent advisors should all be able to direct a person for DLA help.

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 Carer or family member are the best.

What their abilities are or are not.

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?

2) As long as the person is allowed to bring their carer, family member or support worker or support person this would help, otherwise it may be very daunting for people.

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?

- ① Any changes that may have taken place with the persons disability.
 - ② Yes,
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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?

Remind them every so often that their claim can be amended especially if their condition gets worse.

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?

- ① Support and help with the form.
- ② Yes it would be very helpful, some don't even know it exists.

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?

- ① From their own money.

Question 16

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

Children as they grow up, their disabilities may change more frequently.

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?

It has been very helpful.

Maybe use DLA as a form of ID.

It would be drastic, as the cost of living has become horrendous and with some not

being able to hold down jobs it can be their lifeline.

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?

Use the DLA information as a base to
cover all aspects.

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 that DLA should be for disability conditions only, it doesn't matter what gender, race, age, sexual orientation, religion or beliefs are, they are all people.

Question 20

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

Please keep everyone informed of how this is progressing. The care component should maybe increased to assist the carer of the person also, as Carers allowance is very low and also taxed, Carers receive no other financial support and many of us have had to put work etc on