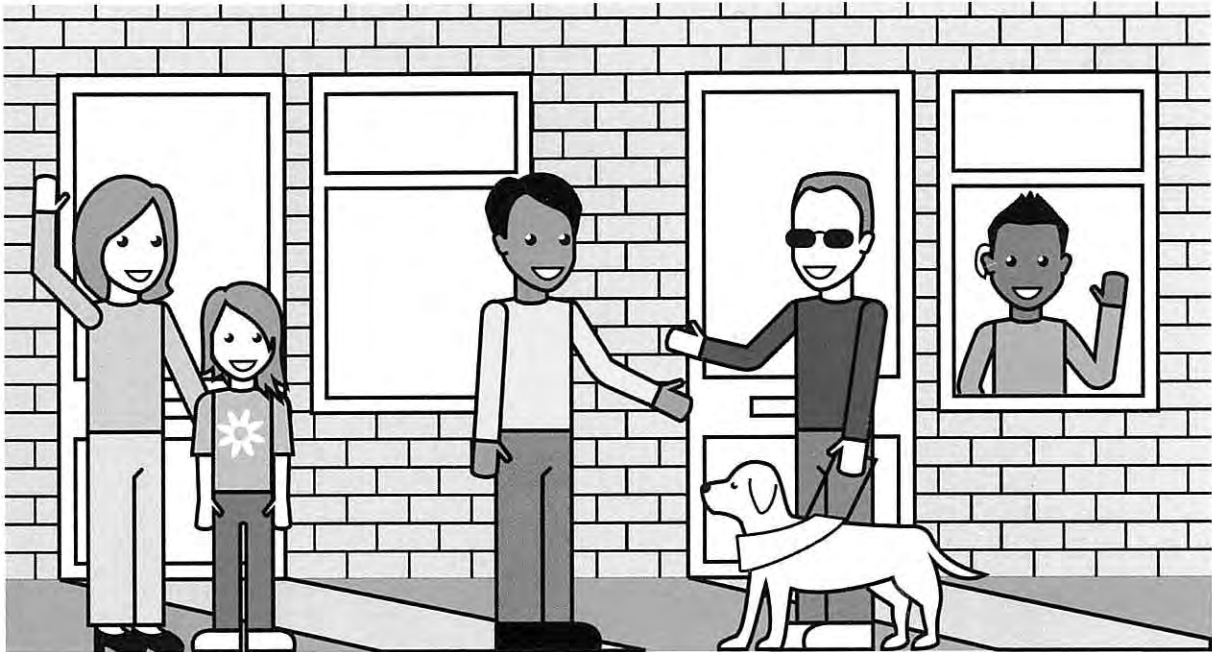


Rec'd
11/2/11

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~ Fairly positive about reforms



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?

main things is money. Because if I ever would like to arrange a social activity.

I need the money for transport. I cannot always get on public transport. we have a disabled mini bus taxi service. This is very expensive. It would cost me £10 to go into town and back (approxiatly 8 miles).

Question 2

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

unsure

Question 3

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

mobility aids e.g. feeding equipment, healthcare equipment e.g. circulation socks etc. Healthcare services e.g. chiropodist, Beautician (for massages to help with health conditions). Hairdresser. All of these services cost more because they visit me in my home because I can't get out very often.

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?

I think this will make the benefit easier to understand and easier to run. I do not think it will cause any 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?

I think all the claims should be based on the needs of the person asking for the benefit.

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 following the procedures you have in place e.g. correspondence with doctors etc. The same as everybody else's needs physical, intellectual, emotional and most importantly social needs.

Question 7

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

Keeping in contact with the person and their doctor. 6/12 month questionnaires on their health etc.

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 you should take into account aids and adaptations that a person could use to help them with everyday life.

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?

Make the form clearer and simple.
Advertise the new benefit e.g t.v
or leaflets, send out information
to disabled people.

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 and or the
carers. Can the person walk? Can the
person talk? Can the person go out?
can they make themselves food or drink?
wash themselves / personal care.

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?

I think it is a good idea. I don't think
anythings bad will come of it.

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?

Corrospece with the person + person g.p.
Every 6 - 12 months to check on wether
the persons health has got any better or
worse. Yes it should depend on the needs
of the person.

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?

Questionnaires sent out regularly +
Keeping in touch with the persons
dr.

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?

It would help if you told people
where to get help and 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?

If living in a care home social services
pay for aids and adaphions. Unsure
about people who live in their own
homes.

Question 16

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

Adults have worked and paid national Insurance. But if they need help it should be given.

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?

Disability living allowance is very important to me I couldn't live without it. I also think it is important to automatically get help e.g. Blue badge scheme + warm front scheme. If we did not automatically get help from other benefits or services we would struggle financially.

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?

Give them as much information as possible.

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 don't think it would
affect equality groups.

Question 20

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

I don't understand why you are changing
Disability living allowance because it
works well. But I do think you
need to make changes so people are
not claiming benefits they are not
entitled to. 23