

Female . 3 mother of 2 autistic Boys . Also run ~~space~~ SPACE  
Carer

DWP

## Questions

### Question 1

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

- A social disability, transport, being able to get around, some people don't ~~seem~~ seem to have independence; Even though they should - this is a problem.

### Question 2

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

Keep it all, the mobility side works very well; this works for all ages. Personal care could be sourced in a different way - but this depends on individual - may find it complicated

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

Things that are not funded that maybe should be for example occupational therapists - which can be £90+ an hour. With children extra educational lessons help with anxiety issues £50+ an hour.

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 agree it needs the different parts - whether it will be easier to run - not sure, don't really think they run it very now; it's more about how good you can fill out a form rather than the disability. This is not fair.

ttt

## Question 3

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?

Don't believe it should be automatic,  
Should be fairly assessed on needs by a  
Specialised professional - very important.

## Question 5

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?

Other professionals such as social workers  
need to be more aware and occupational  
therapists also.

x all health services need to be more aware and  
do more home visits so they can really see  
what's happening, rather than a telephone  
call being seen as sufficient.

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

Home visits again, need to be  
regular. Especially if they don't have  
a carer that lives with them.

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 should take adaptations into account  
But they should not receive more or

less funding - it should be fair across  
the board.

## 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?

Don't think it can be a one form fits all,  
current DLA form is not mental health  
friendly, very much centred around physical  
disability.

## 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's, And the person themselves  
if able. Other professionals should do  
reports or assessments.

## 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?

Again this is not good for people who have  
mental health problems. Autistic people  
cannot do face to face - as this is a big part  
of their condition.

## 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?

Will children; should check at educational transition ages. With older people should be assessed when needs change, this should be seen/done by professionals eg. Carers, District nurses etc.

## 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?

yearly assessments

## 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?

yes, very important advice & help is out there, and where it is!

## 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?

One off costs should be allowed. A lot of disabled people are forced to pay out of their own pocket.

## Question 15

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

This is a Big Issue - forms are the same, this is not right, should be different forms current DLA form not fit for the purpose of a child

## 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 need to know more, you have to ask your never informed, services that can help need to be highlighted. Blue Badge widely used, people want suffer without it But at the same time make sure people who really need it get rather than being based on how well you can fill out a form.

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?

Think this is important communication across all services is crucial, everything should be shared, save money, time - GOOD IDEA.

## 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

Don't think it will - and it should not  
affect them at all - Everyone treated the same.

## Question 20

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

more information, feel like its very  
Secretive.

## Word list

### Attendance Allowance

This is money that people aged 65 or over may be able to get if they need someone to help look after them because they are disabled .....6

### Care and support

Care and support are the services and other things that help people live full, independent, active and healthy lives .....3

### Consultation

This is when the government asks what people think about their plans, and for ideas about the best ways of doing things.....2

### Disability Living Allowance

This is money that someone with a disability or a health condition may be able to get to help them pay for the help and support they need .....2