

Questions

Question 1

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

Some impairments, health,
discrimination, lack of confidence
+ self esteem

Question 2

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

All of it.

Question 3

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

if things can't be accessed easily - e.g.
get shopping delivered. Personal support,
transport (taxi's often easier), equipment

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? Doesn't make any difference.

Do you think just having the 2 amounts for each part will cause any problems?

If it is used to downgrade people's money, it will cause problems.

Question 5

Do you think some health conditions or disabilities should allow people to get an amount of the benefit automatically? Yes.

Or do you think that all claims should be based on the needs of the person asking for the benefit?

If someone is definitely entitled
(due to a health condition or disability)
then it is simpler.

Question 6

How can we make sure that disabled people who most need the new benefit can get it? providing more support to
help people to apply - advisors/independent professionals
What activities or actions are the most important to live an independent life?

Being able to look after personal
needs (bath, dinner), socialising,
being able to do the things anyone
else would be able to do.

Question 7

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

Continue to ask about the frequency
of the problem. The medical assessments
don't take into account fluctuating
conditions. Support workers need to be
involved.

Question 8

When a person makes a claim to the new benefit, should we take account of any aids or adaptations that they use? Yes.

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 - take into account things (+
support-) people could use, +
reasonable adjustments.

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?
I don't know, but it is a shocking form — or get other professionals introduced.
- 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?

Places like the JIB + other professional
orgs, TV + radio advertising.

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 info needs to be collected in
different ways from different
people.

Need lots of information. Give scenarios,

opportunity to explore what the
individual means.

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?

Invasion of privacy. Strangers can
lead to people feeling uncomfortable,
rushing answers.

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?

Lifelong conditions shouldn't be continually reassessed. But some people may deteriorate or get better. The way claims are reassessed should be done positively for a fair result.

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?

where people's disabilities are constant/unchanging this would be unnecessary.

Otherwise there could be a change of circumstances form with a tick list of possible changes sent out annually.

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.

help with completing the forms. Help will vary considerably from person to person but could be transport, personal support, aids + equipment.

Question 15

How do disabled people pay for their aids and adaptations at the moment? some items are funded by NHS or A&A but people may use their own money to pay for a one-off cost? Should disabled people be allowed to use the new benefit to pay for a one-off cost?

The new benefit should not be for purchasing equipment as provision for this should be separate.

The new benefit should be used for additional support and small charges that they incur as a result of their disability e.g. taxi money, re-imbursing a friend of petrol costs etc

Question 16

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

identifying 'life-long' static prognosis.
conditions. If a child is very
disabled and will not get
better then the benefit should not
need to be constantly reassessed.

Question 17

How important or useful has Disability Living Allowance been in getting people to use other services or to get other benefits?

links to working tax credit makes employment
What can we do to make things better? a more viable option.
maintain this link.

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?

disabled people would be discriminated
against because they would have such
a low income, reduced opportunities
for work. less money to use for
socialising so risk of becoming
isolated/excluded. disabled
people wouldn't be able to participate
and lead normal lives.

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?

'changes' such as bank details,
moving house, starting work, etc.

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

older people may not claim a disability benefit as they may see their disability as a natural part of the ageing process.

Question 20 For people who have English as a second language they may need

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

help to find out about and apply for benefits.

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