

Consultation response

Question 1: We would like to know in what context you are responding. Please choose one of the following:

I am responding as:

- a) an individual who experiences chronic pain
- b) a family member or carer of someone who experiences chronic pain
- c) a health professional
- d) an organisation representing people who experience chronic pain
- e) other stakeholder (please tell us in the comments box below)

Comments (box expands with text input - there is no word limit)

Question 2: Please choose your preferred option (Chapter 2 provides details).

- Option 1 – a centre of excellence in a single location
- Option 2 – a service delivered by local chronic pain clinicians
(supported by other clinical advisors in another part of the country)
- Option 3 – a service delivered in different locations
(by a team of chronic pain specialists – an outreach or roving service)

Please tell us why this is your preferred option in the comments box below. The factors listed in Chapter 2 of the consultation paper may help you.

Research evidence supports this model, rather than any of the others. There are significant practical barriers that are likely to make the other two models less than successful, whereas Option 1 allows the rapid development of individual and corporate excellence, and is likely to be of greatest benefit to individuals with chronic pain. It is also the model most likely to allow successful research and development, with further growing excellence and better outcomes

Question 3: Are there any of the options you disagree with? (If No, move straight to Question 4.)

If yes, please tell us which one(s) in the comments box, and why?

Comments (box expands with text input - there is no word limit)

Question 4: If you have other ideas that have not been covered, please tell us about these in the comments box below. You may want to include the advantages and disadvantages of each.

Existing evidence of the effectiveness of residential and other pain management programmes is generally lacking for long-term outcomes (ie beyond 12 months). There is evidence to show that any benefit tends to tail off over time – it is essential, therefore, that the Service includes longer-term maintenance support – this needs to be efficiently delivered, for example through telephone, or web-based “top-ups”. These would need to be developed de novo as part of the service, in order to ensure long-term benefit.

Question 5: What do you think the barriers are to accessing a residential pain management service? (For example, distance away from family, work or family commitments, upfront travel costs.)

Please list as many as you wish in the comments box below and include any others that are important to you.

The barriers listed above are all important, and need to be addressed upfront. An additional potential barrier, which we would all need to work together on removing, is the stigma of having to be “sent away”

Question 6: Please choose from the list below which aspects of residential pain management services should be included in a Scottish service.

(choose as many as apply)

- A chronic pain assessment
- Supported one to one sessions to teach coping skills
- Group sessions
- Residential accommodation
- Opportunity for immediate carer/support provider to accompany patient
- Peer support
- Tailored exercise programme
- Medication assessment
- Other (please tell us in the comments box below)

See above – maintenance of benefit through some form of follow-up, eg email, telephone, web

Question 7: Irrespective of the final service model selected, should access to the current service provided in Bath (or elsewhere in the UK) be retained for occasional use?

Yes No Don't Know

Question 8: Have you previously attended, or supported someone attending a residential service outside Scotland?

Yes (please answer Question 9)

No (please move straight to Question 10)

Question 9: If you have attended, or supported someone attending a residential service outside Scotland, please tell us about any advantages and disadvantages of the experience.

Comments (box expands with text input - there is no word limit)

Question 10: If you, or someone close to you, has been offered but declined a residential service outside Scotland what were the reasons for this?

Comments (box expands with text input - there is no word limit)

Question 11: If you wish to add any further comments on issues raised in the consultation paper or current chronic pain services in Scotland, please use the comments box below.

Comments (box expands with text input - there is no word limit)