

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)

Community Pharmacy Scotland is the organisation which represents the owners of the 1250 community pharmacies in Scotland.

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.

The centre of excellence will allow for the small number patients who require specialist residential care to receive treatment in Scotland without having to travel to Bath. The support and networks provided by such an approach have been shown to effective and popular with patients.

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?

It is likely recruiting and retaining staff for a roving service would be difficult.

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.

We believe that there is benefit to having a specialist centre but key to improving services for the majority of patients is to improve access to chronic pain services through generalists (pharmacy, GP's) in the community. Key to improving services for the majority of patients is management in the community with formal referral pathways to more specialist services when required. NHS Fife has a model involving management of patients in community pharmacy with support of specialist pain services. Schemes of this nature should be explored further to enhance the care given to patients.

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.

Distance to travel to Bath
Time away from family
Upfront cost

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)

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

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.

The challenges of dealing with a smaller patient cohort in Scotland could lead to difficulties providing some of the specialist support offered in Bath for example peer support or group sessions. For this reason we believe it is important to retain access to the Bath facility.

The specialist service should be seen as an important step to improving chronic pain services for people all over Scotland. We believe it is crucial that generalists are also given the framework and support to provide services to the majority of patients suffering from chronic pain in the community setting.