Consultation response: the provision of specialist residential chronic pain services in Scotland

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)  

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.

ALL THE SERVICES ARE IN THE ONE LOCATION.
THE DOCTOR CAN DEAL WITH BOTH IN-PATIENTS & OUT-PATIENTS IN
ONE PLACE, WHERE'S THE LOGIC
IN GOING TO ANOTHER PART OF
THE UK WHEN YOUR SPECIALIST
IS HERE IN GLASGOW & KNOWS
THE BACKGROUND OF YOUR ILLNESS
AND ALSO KNOWS YOU ON A PERSONAL BASIS.
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?

I only agree with Option 1. It's the only option for me and many people like me.

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.

Provide the services that you want to provide but not at the expense of people like me who benefit so much from the homeopathic, it's not just about homeopathic remedies, they provide an entire range of care, physio, Bowen, art therapy, counselling, to name but a few. There is one who attends homeopathic care and feels better at the end of their stay.
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.

I'm ill, therefore, woman there's no benefit to me to travel hundreds of miles to England or Wales when I have an excellent facility here, practically on my doorstep i.e. Scotland.

I can't praise all the staff high enough in the homeopathic hospital from the bottom to the top. Scotland should be proud of this facility, and promoting it to the rest of the UK and further, as a top class facility for care.
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)

Physio, Bowen, Art therapy, Acupuncture, Special bath, relaxation, Occupational therapy, For suitable aids - e.g. walking stick, items for home use. Also, meeting people in similar circumstances can be helpful.
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.
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?

\[N/A\]

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.

I HAD THE PLEASURE OF SPEAKING TO THE HEALTH MINISTER, ALEX NEIL, AT HIS VISIT TO THE HOMEOPATHIC HOSPITAL EARLIER THIS YEAR, IF HE REMEMBERS, I TOLD HIM I WAS 'FIT FOR THE BIN!' BEFORE I WAS REFERRED FOR TREATMENT AT THE HOMEOPATHIC HOSPITAL AND HOW PASSIONATE I FELT ABOUT THE CARE I RECEIVE AT THE HOMEOPATHIC HOSPITAL AND I SPOKE ON BEHALF OF MANY OTHERS LIKE ME. WHEN I ASKED HIM IF THE HOSPITAL WAS CLOSING AND HE SAID "NO!", THIS LEFT ME WITH A SMILE.

(End of questions. If you require more space to write answers, you may submit as many additional pages as you wish. If doing so, please clearly state the question numbers that your answers relate to.)