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)

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.
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?

Options 1 and 3. If the treatment of chronic pain is included within medical training, the necessary diagnostic skills will be available from General Practitioners, the general standard of care should improve and, in extreme cases, may be made of a residential placement at the centre of excellence.

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.

Clinical psychologists within the medical profession will naturally be involved in encouraging coping strategies in the patient and the family. However, where young people of school age are affected, it could be useful to involve educational psychologists, especially where connections with child, school and home have already been established.
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.
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) ☐

It is clearly important that all agencies concerned with supporting chronic pain sufferers should, as part of their training, have experience of residential pain management. However, as part of residential care is designed to make the sufferer more independent, having the patient accompanied by carer/supporter should be the exception rather than the rule.
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?

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.

(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.)