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.

It makes more sense to have all experience and expertise under the same roof. In a centre of excellence there are more like minded experts who can participate in and follow latest researched methods. To have small centres would dilute the service leaving to a post-code lottery on who gets the best service.
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?

The residential service at the Glasgow Homoeopathic centre should be increased to allow more beds where a patient could be admitted and have the benefit of the integrated services under the one roof. There is no other service in Scotland which comes near to what they have achieved in chronic pain sufferers, of which I am one. Otherwise we are left to get on with it!
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.

None that are not worth the benefits of a centre of excellence would offer such high residential and non-residential 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)

Other (please tell us in the comments box below)

- Physiotherapy
- Acupuncture
- Holistic Therapist - massage, reiki
- Reflexology
- Occupational Therapist
- Mindfulness Training
- Pilates
- Experienced doctors, nurses, care staff, ancillary staff
- Psychological/Emotional assessment

As chronic pain destroys you as a person - help to change and be a person again.
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.

Yes ☐ No ☑

Advantages:
- Increased awareness of different service models
- Improved understanding of service delivery in Scotland
- Enhanced training and professional development

Disadvantages:
- Cultural differences may affect service delivery
- Communication challenges can arise
- Access to resources and support may be limited
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.

Why talk about using a service outside of Scotland when we have a great service in the Homoeopathic Hospital in Glasgow. This is accessible from all of Scotland as the train is on its doorstep. The service is second to none and only needs the Scottish Government to recognize this and support it.

(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.)