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)

I am responding as a retired Consultant Haematologist.

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.

A Specialist Residential Chronic Pain Service is badly needed in Scotland and, with limited financial resources, one Scottish centre will make best use of available finances. In addition, a single centre of excellence will ensure that expertise will not be diluted and best practice will be developed, and localised in one place.

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 am not in support of Options 2 and 3 for the reasons outlined in my response to Question 2 above.
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.

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

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.

Travel costs, unavailability of carers to accompany patients to treatment centres and unacceptable waiting times to access treatment are some of the barriers to accessing residential pain management services.

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)  √

Adequate staffing levels to effect acceptable times between referral and being seen at the centre are essential to providing an efficient service that meets the needs of the patients it will serve.

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?

Not applicable.

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)