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)

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

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.

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

Because there will be all specialists there. Peer support after treatment is more likely if you've spent more time with them. A wider range of treatments might be available. There are not enough surgeons available locally so unless more money is put into local pain clinics, other options won't work.
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?

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

Option 3 - outreach service where specialist have to travel for 2-4 weeks (to each NHS board area) so I can't see you getting any staff willing to do this.

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.

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

Distance away from home. Work commitments.
Childcare whilst away (I am a single parent + my mother is now in a home, father deceased, sister severely disabled) so childcare is a huge issue. Upfront travel costs although if reimbursed isn't too bad. Getting someone to take me & bring me back if I'm unable to drive or use public transport due to pain.

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)

Other therapies that might help - like 'mindfulness' courses, psychology sessions etc. These are helpful as a group as well as in one to one sessions.
Spinal injections & treatments. Chiropractors & alternative therapies.

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)

I have never been offered this. (Can't know why)

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)

Currently the injections are offered to me in Colspe, which is a five hour car journey from where I live. It would be helpful to not have to travel so far.

My last injection was in March 2013 and it lasted a few months. I was told in May, that there was a 26 week waiting list until the next injection. This is not an acceptable length of time to have to wait.

There are only 2 surgeons that can do these injections and one of them is on long-term sick at the moment so I will probably have to wait several months more (I have been told). This is unacceptable. I shouldn't have to live in this much pain for any length of time - it affects everything I try and do.

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