

Consultation Questions

Question 1(a): Is paragraph 9 clear and easy to understand? (please tick)

Yes	No
X	

Question 1(b): Do you agree with the waiving of charging circumstances as set out in paragraph 9? (please tick)

Yes	No
	X

Question 1(c): If you do not agree with the waiving of charging circumstances as set out in paragraph 9, please state your reasons below:

There may be implications for charging which could potentially directly impact on the income generation. Income generation as per the charging policy is an important revenue source to ensure continuation of and development within support services. There is currently a client contribution applied in relation to residential respite which could be affected if the respite is assessed as to meet the carer's needs. This also raises the question as to whether a service user receiving a supported living package could be construed as respite in relation to the carer's needs.

These financial restrictions will lead to a tightening of the eligibility criteria therefore affecting already challenging plans to introduce early intervention/preventative support for those not meeting the higher end of the current criteria.

Has consideration been given as to whether the waiving of carers' charges will have any impact on those in receipt of Carer's Allowance. This is not clear and requires more clarity.

Question 2(a): Are you content with the examples of support to carers and young carers, as set out in paragraph 10, where charges will be waived? (please tick)

No

Question 2(b): If you are not content, please state your reasons below:

Has the examples provided been examined financially to determine the possible impact on a local authority's income generation? The resource implications may be detrimental.

Question 2(c): Are there further examples that you would like to add? (please tick)

Yes	No
	X

Question 2(d): If there are further examples that you would like to include in the list, please state these below and also set out your reasons for suggesting their inclusion.

N/A

Question 3(a): Do you agree with the exceptional circumstances set out in paragraphs 12 (with examples) and 13 about support to carers to help pay for driving lessons and taxi fares? (please tick)

Yes	No
X	

Question 3(b): If you do not agree, please state your reasons below:

While we agree in principle, this answer is similar to answer in 2(b) in questioning whether the examples have been examined (financially) to determine the possible impact to the local authority's generation of income. Clarity is also required around exceptional circumstances as we are concerned about the (perhaps unintended) consequences of this and the impact on resources. There would be potential for decisions regarding exceptional circumstances to be challenged depending on an individual or organisation's perception of 'exceptional'.

Question 4(a): Do you agree with the waiving of charges as set out in paragraphs 14 and 15 with regard to short breaks? (please tick)

Yes	No
X	

Question 4(b): If you do not agree, please set out your reasons below:

Again, while we agree in principle we are concerned about the potential loss of income and the impact this could have on the local authority's resources. Income generation as per the charging policy is an important revenue source to ensure continuation of and development within support services. Income generation as per the charging policy is an important revenue source to ensure continuation of and development within support services.

Question 5(a): Do you agree with the position set out in paragraph 16 that when the carer and cared-for person take a break together, then as well as waiving the cost of the break for the carer, the additional costs of the break to enable the break to take place will also be met by the local authority? (please tick)

Yes	No
	X

Question 5(b): If you do not agree, please state your reasons below:

We are concerned about the additional cost impact on the local authority's financial resources regarding meeting the cost of additional provisions.

Question 6(a): Do you agree with the position set out in paragraphs 17 and 18 that local authorities will waive the cost of replacement care when they provide

or commission replacement care in circumstances when others cannot provide replacement care free of charge? (please tick)

Yes	No
X	

Question 6(b): If you do not agree with the position, please set out your reasons below:

While we agree in principle, we are concerned about the financial impact that this could have on the local authority's financial resources.

Question 7: Do you have any additional comments? If so, please use the space below to provide these further comments. Local authorities may wish to comment on any financial consequences arising from the Regulations. If so, please set out estimates of anticipated support to be provided to carers and cost estimates.

The potential impact on the proposal not to charge for services to carers within this local authority could account for lost contributions of approximately £80,000 per year based on current provision. This figure does not take account of any increase in provision of support to carers that may be generated from the introduction of Self Directed Support and the Draft Carers (Waiving of Charges for Support) Scotland Regulations 2014.

Question 8: Do you have any comments on the draft Regulations as set out in this Annex A? If so, please use the space below to set out these comments:

No further comments.

Thank you for completing this consultation. Please return your completed 'Respondent Information Form' and this 'Consultation Response Form' to alun.ellis@scotland.gsi.gov.uk by **Wednesday 10th July 2013**.