

Consultation Questions

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

Yes ✓ No

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

Yes No ✓

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:

Glasgow City Council (GCC) would agree that support provided directly to carers, in their own right, should not be subject to charge. (Lines 1 and 2)

Clear guidance is required around these draft regulations.

Individual budgets will have a financial limit and this will be based on eligible need and carers and the cared for will be able to exercise choice and control as to how these budgets are spent.

The level of funding for short breaks/ respite will be set by the local authority. If carers decide on a more expensive break then they should be required to meet the additional costs.

Any guidance needs to give clarity about what is meant by “whole cost”.

In exercising choice and control there will be an element of flexibility around what is purchased to meet the assessed need but local authorities cannot be expected to meet additional costs if the carer chooses to take a holiday abroad.

Where the local authority assesses the need for a break for the carer any additional expenditure associated with the needs of the cared for person should include the use of welfare benefits (for example, DLA)

The significant challenge around these proposals is “how will these be funded”.

A duty to deliver on these proposals will reduce the finances available to Local Authorities (LA) for carer supports and may result in greater prioritisation of those carers eligible for support leading to a reduction in resources available for a more preventative and anticipatory approach to supporting carers

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:

Our view is that mobility benefits from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) should be used to fund transport costs with NHS being responsible for providing transport to NHS appointments.

As previously stated individual budgets for carer support will allow flexibility in meeting agreed outcomes.

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

Yes

No ✓

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.

There are significant challenges in managing budgets and getting support to those in greatest need. Glasgow's carer assessments process has also contributed to budget allocation in the Self Directed Support (SDS) process to ensure those at greatest risk access appropriate care budgets.

There are also significant issues around the blurring of who the short break is delivering better outcomes for – Service user or carer – i.e. A day care placement could provide respite for a carer, but would also provided social stimulation and safety for the service user, so how do you decide who should pay for the service?

A move towards a model where the state funds holidays or respite could be a regressive step. This could create dependency for people with caring responsibilities. An ageing population will place significant demands on services and could easily create carer expectations which are financially unsustainable and contradicts the ethos of social work and shifting the balance of care.

There has been a significant shift in supporting carers from resource driven to outcomes focussed. A focus on the right to respite as a key resource as opposed to what outcomes are important to the carer and patient could also be a regressive step.

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

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

The decision to fund driving lessons if this meets agreed outcomes will be the carer's decision.

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

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

The focus of SDS for carers needs to be around outcomes and we don't think that the LA should be prescriptive as to how these budgets should be spent.

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

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

The additional costs associated with support needs are addressed through the welfare benefits system (DLA, AA etc). We suggest that the local authority should have the discretion to make additional payments where it believes it is right to do so but this should not be a duty.

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

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

We suggest that it should be made clear that this applies solely to replacement

care to benefit the carer, based on carer's assessment and eligible need, and not for care at home services or day services which provide coincidental breaks for carers.

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.

No additional comments

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 additional 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**.