

Response ID ANON-4CMJ-2EP1-6

Submitted to Adult Disability Payment: Review of the mobility component
Submitted on 2023-03-07 15:01:51

Section 1: The moving around activity

Criteria for the moving around activity

1 Do you agree or disagree that the moving around activity criteria for Adult Disability Payment are easy to understand?

Agree

Please give reasons for your answer, outlining which parts you think are easy or difficult to understand and why.:

PIP descriptions were so limiting and no clear examples were given, the ADP criteria is clearer and more straight forward

How could we make the moving around activity criteria easier to understand?:

Perhaps consider a video showing examples of situations which would qualify for the Award.

Evidence on the moving around activity

2 Are there any other issues with the moving around activity that we have not captured above?

Yes

If you said "yes," what other issues with the moving around activity do you think need to be considered?:

I think there should be an increased emphasis on how often someone can or can't do a task, rather than either can walk x metres or can't walk x metres. Many disabled people can do a greater distance once in a while or when essential. The Award should be more holistic.

eg if someone is in danger they may be able to walk/move much further than the distance they can manage in normal daily life.

In your view, what are the positive aspects of the moving around activity that we have not captured above?:

see above. It all depends on the need, the mental capacity and personal attitude.
Its the glass half full, not half empty syndrome.

When people arrive for a PIP assessment they are observed accessing the building, this is a very stressful situation but many people 'want to do their best' and frequently an application was rejected because this was a one off occasion, under stress when they managed more than x metres

Improvements made to Adult Disability Payment for the moving around activity

3 How effective do you think the moving around section of the application form is at helping us understand a person's mobility needs?

Effective

Please give reasons for your answer:

I'm a little concerned about the standing definition. Some people who are double amputees have more balance and can walk further than a single amputee. For example disabled athletic participants.

4 What impact do you think the changes to how we make decisions on the moving around activity have on understanding a person's mobility needs?

Significant positive impact

Please give reasons for your answer:

The face to face assessments for PIP were degrading, time consuming and challenging for many people.

I would like to see a note that evidence should be up to date, rather than someone producing an old document where the condition may have improved or deteriorated.

5 If there was an opportunity to change the moving around activity criteria, what changes would you make (if any)?

Please describe what changes you would make:

I would welcome a more detailed description about the quality of the level ground, eg it may be very difficult to walk on a pebbled surface as against a tarmac surface.

If you proposed changes, what positive impacts could these have, and for who?:

Disabled people are not limited to walking /wheeling on tarmac, to live a full life they need to be able to cross grass / walk on pebbles/ walk on cobbles (eg Edinburgh streets)

If you proposed changes, what negative impacts could these have, and for who?:

I don't see the changes as having a negative impact on the claimant

Criteria for the planning and following journeys activity

6 Do you agree or disagree that the planning and following journeys activity eligibility criteria is easy to understand?

Agree

Please give reasons for your answer, outlining which parts you think are easy or difficult to understand and why.:

I agree with the criteria but would suggest including in the description 'planning or undertaking a journey by foot, wheeling, by public transport, taxi, driving.

Many people cannot undertake some or all of these situations and it may be necessary to award points based on the mode of travel not just 'making a journey'. eg a person may be able to get from A to B in a taxi, but not by wheelchair/scooter (if they were physically able to wheel the distance required. eg a blind person could do A to B in a taxi but not on foot as they can't plan the route.

How could we make the planning and following journeys activity eligibility criteria easier to understand? :

see above, include examples in the video I suggested earlier.

Evidence on the planning and following journeys activity

7 Are there any other issues with the planning and following journeys activity that we have not captured above?

Yes

If you said "yes", what other issues with the planning and following journeys activity do you think need to be considered?:

Consideration needs to be given to the availability of footpaths, transport, accessible taxis etc
In rural and Island communities buses are infrequent and not adapted for disabled people, there are few footpaths for someone to wheel and the personal experience and opportunity of an islander may affect what they can and can't do.

In your view, what are the positive aspects of the planning and following journeys activity that we have not captured above?:

throughout the documents reference should be made to walking and wheeling in line with Transport Scotland's hierarchy of travel

Improvements made to Adult Disability Payment for the planning and following journeys activity

8 How effective do you think the planning and following journeys section of the application form is at helping us understand a person's ability to plan and follow journeys?

Very effective

Please give reasons for your answer:

clear, step by step form

9 What impact do you think the changes to how we make decisions on the planning and following journeys activity has on understanding a person's ability to plan and follow journeys?

Significant positive impact

Please give reasons for your answer:

I welcome the changes. Making a holistic evidence collection is essential. It addresses the glass half full / half empty syndrome.

10 If there was an opportunity to change any specific aspects of the planning and following journeys activity, what changes would you make (if any)?

Please describe what changes you would make:

perhaps give space for a client to describe something they can do or can't do.

If you proposed changes, what positive impacts could these have, and for who?:

gives more information to the assessor

If you proposed changes, what negative impacts could these have, and for who?:

Criteria for fluctuating conditions

11 Do you agree or disagree that the criteria for fluctuating conditions is easy to understand?

Agree

Please give reasons for your answer, outlining which parts you think are easy or difficult to understand and why.:

term descriptor is a bit 'technical' why not use example

How could we make the fluctuating conditions criteria easier to understand? :

give some examples, and consider the video idea

Evidence on the fluctuating conditions criteria

12 Are there any other issues with the fluctuating conditions criteria that we have not captured above?

Don't know

If you said "yes", what other issues with the fluctuating conditions criteria do you think need to be considered?:

Allowing clients to describe their best and worse days and the frequency of these is probably the best approach. A client needs to feel that they have every opportunity to describe their disability/health.

In your view, what are the positive aspects of the fluctuating conditions criteria that we have not captured above?:

none.

Improvements made to Adult Disability Payment for fluctuating conditions

13 How effective do you think the fluctuating conditions section of the application form is at helping us understand the needs of people with fluctuating conditions?

Effective

Please give reasons for your answer:

Needs to say walked /wheeled.

14 Thinking about the changes we have made to how we make decisions about fluctuating conditions, what impact do you think this is having on understanding the impact of a person's fluctuating conditions?

Significant positive impact

Please give reasons for your answer:

Gathering information is a major step forward from assessing a person face to face, and covering only the criteria relating to a specific condition is positive

15 If there was an opportunity to change any specific aspects of the fluctuating conditions criteria, what changes would you make (if any)?

Please describe what changes you would make:

Include use of aids and adaptations. Someone may walk adequately on a good day and rely on a wheelchair on a bad one. Likewise with mental health, good and bad days are significantly different.

If you proposed changes, what positive impacts could these have, and for who?:

clients who have wide discrepancies between good and bad days need a holistic assessment

If you proposed changes, what negative impacts could these have, and for who?:

Alternative approaches

16 If there was an opportunity to consider alternative approaches to a points-based system to understand disabled people's needs, what alternatives would you propose (if any)?

Please consider what specific changes to the eligibility criteria you think would be required.:

the only other eligibility criteria would be a descriptive one, eg severely, some affect. The points system is clear and straightforward.

The only change I would suggest is having sub scores which contribute to an overall score for each category of ADP

If you proposed changes, what positive impacts could these have, and for who?:

It may remove some of the rigid line between qualify or not qualify for a benefit.

If you proposed changes, what negative impacts could these have, and for who?:

Perhaps more successful claims

If you proposed changes, which of these would you prioritise? :

17 Other than changes to the eligibility criteria, are there any changes you think we could make to Adult Disability Payment to support people's mobility needs (if any)?

Other than changes to the eligibility criteria, are there any changes you think we could make to Adult Disability Payment to support people's mobility needs (if any)?:

I welcome the shift from assessment by a clinician to evidence gathering.

I welcome the widening of application methods especially the on-line and face to face option.

Also the use of an advocacy service is good practice.

If you proposed changes, what positive impacts could these have, and for who?:

more user friendly and not as challenging. I have heard disabled people say they won't apply for PIP because of the assessment interview.

If you proposed changes, what negative impacts could these have, and for who?:

Increase in applications.

If you proposed changes, how would you prioritise these?:

Deliverability of recommendations

18 How can the independent review ensure that any recommendations it makes are both deliverable and affordable?

How can the independent review ensure that any recommendations it makes are both deliverable and affordable?:

A fair financial support system, but within budget.

Well assessed benefits

Well publicised benefits

Please give reasons for your answer:

Many people who are eligible for benefits do not apply, so this could be reviewed.

Considering the impact of recommendations on reserved benefits and entitlements – "passporting"

19 How can the independent review consider the impact of any recommendations on existing "passporting" arrangements?

How can the independent review consider the impact of any recommendations on existing "passporting" arrangements?:

Passporting of the discounted road tax will have a significant impact on access to a car for disabled drivers, under the AVES scheme tis should be considered.

Please give reasons for your answer:

Motability currently claims the tax relief and any rises in PIP during the life of a lease. This year the 10.1% cost of living increase on PIP has been claimed, in total, by Motability. Under ADP Scotland has the chance to address this and stop Motability or their replacement making huge profits.

Medium

Please explain why you chose this answer.:

I drive a Motability car which is essential for my mobility

About you

20 What is your name?

Name:

Hilary Stubbs

21 What is your email address?

Email:

MACS@gov.scot

22 Are you responding as an individual or an organisation?

Organisation

23 What is your organisation?

Organisation:

Mobility and Access Committee (MACS)

24 The Scottish Government would like your permission to publish your consultation response. Please indicate your publishing preference:

Publish response only (without name)

25 We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

Yes

26 I confirm that I have read the privacy policy and consent to the data I provide being used as set out in the policy.

I consent

Evaluation

27 Please help us improve our consultations by answering the questions below. (Responses to the evaluation will not be published.)

Matrix 1 - How satisfied were you with this consultation?:

Very satisfied

Please enter comments here.:

well balanced, well structured consultation

Matrix 1 - How would you rate your satisfaction with using this platform (Citizen Space) to respond to this consultation?:

Very satisfied

Please enter comments here.:

good to see progress on consultation responses and to save for later