

ADDENDUM – Residential school / college call for evidence

Following publication of the Low Review call for evidence the steering group became aware of the need for input from residential schools and colleges providing education to young disabled people aged 16 or over. This addendum is in response to this need. The original and full copy of the call for evidence and full information about the review can be found at: www.lowreview.org.uk

About the Low Review

The Low Review aims to consider how personal mobility needs of care home residents and school / college residents (post 16) are currently met, how they are funded and what responsibilities providers and other agencies (e.g. the local authority) have in relation to the mobility needs of disabled residents.

Context

1. The Spending Review announced that from October 2012 the Government will no longer pay the mobility component of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) to disabled people living in state funded residential care. In November, Maria Miller MP, Minister for Disabled People, confirmed that this would also apply to children and young people in residential special schools / colleges.

What do we mean by 'personal mobility needs'?

Personal mobility is the ability to get around. People can face additional costs associated with mobility because of their disability. For example, someone may need to purchase a mobility aid (e.g. an electric wheelchair) or they may need to pay for things like accessible transport. Some people may not be able to travel independently or are unable to drive because of their disability and are therefore reliant on others for their transportation requirements.

2. At publication of the Welfare Reform Bill the Government announced its intention to delay the removal of this benefit until March 2013 when Personal Independence Payment (PIP) is introduced. The Government also announced that PIP will **not be** extended to those aged under 16 in 2013/14 and that there will be a separate consultation in relation to PIP for those under the age of 16.
3. From March 2013 everyone **between 16 and 64** currently receiving DLA will be assessed for PIP and many people currently receiving mobility component of DLA will instead receive the mobility component of PIP.
4. It remains unclear what this means for those young adults who attend residential schools / colleges and who are over the age of 16. While the Welfare Reform Bill 2011 contains powers to create regulations removing the mobility component of PIP from people living in state-funded residential care, there is no specific mention of PIP mobility in relation to those living in residential school / college.
5. However, there is scope for related regulations to expand the removal of the mobility component of PIP from those in residential schools / colleges.

6. The Government is currently carrying out an internal review into how personal mobility needs are met and funded and the Low Review is intended to run in parallel to and complement the Government review by providing an opportunity for public contributions.

Call for evidence questions - for education providers:

- 1. Are mobility or transport needs considered as part of the contractual arrangements between you and the local authority or Young People’s Learning Agency (YPLA) / Skills Funding Agency (SFA)?**

Activity	Fully	Partly	Not at all
Including provision at the start and end of term to get students to and from the college			
If week day only residents, including provision to get students to and from college before and after each weekend			
To provide for the mobility / transport costs of curriculum activities:			
Visiting leisure facilities as part of curriculum – e.g. swimming as part of physical education			
Social activities as part of the curriculum – e.g. going to the shops or cinema as part of independent living skills			
Attending a work experience placement or supported employment			
School outings as part of the curriculum / school programme			
Other, please specify _____			
To provide for the mobility / transport costs outside of the curriculum:			
Trips out at the weekend			
Going shopping for personal items			

Attending a local group			
Attending medical appointments			
Visiting with family / friends			
Other, please specify _____			

- 2. How are mobility and transport needs funded during weekends and holidays?**
- 3. Is some or part of your funding for mobility taken from your student's mobility component of DLA? Please specify how and what this is used for.**
- 4. Do you have any policies on your students' use of DLA mobility, and if yes what are these?**
- 5. Please tell us a bit more about your residential school / college arrangements:**

	If yes, please tick here:
Students are week day only residents and go home on Friday afternoons for the weekend	
Students remain at the school / college most weekends	
Term time is between 35-38 weeks per year	
Term time is 52 weeks per year	
Is there anything else you want to say about your school / college arrangements: _____	

- 6. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about how you meet the personal mobility needs of your students?**

2. Do you know how these mobility / transport needs are funded? Please tick any of the boxes that apply:

	DLA mobility	The school / college pays	Local authority	My family or I pay	Other (please specify) / Don't know
During term time, while you are at school / college:					
Getting to and from school / college at weekends (for week day only residents)					
Getting to and from school / college at the end / beginning of term					
Visiting leisure facilities in my own time					
Visiting leisure facilities as part of my school programme / curriculum					
Attending a work experience placement					
For school outings as part of my school programme					
Attending medical appointments					
Trips out at the weekend					
Taking part in social activities with friends in my own time					
Visiting friends / family					
Family members coming to see me at school / college					
Going shopping for personal items in my own time					
Going shopping as part of my curriculum learning					
Other: please specify:					
During holidays and at weekends when I am home:					
To attend a day service when I am at home in the holidays					

Visiting leisure facilities					
For school outings					
Attending a work experience placement					
Attending medical appointments					
Trips out at the weekend					
Taking part in social activities with friends					
Visiting friends / family					
Going shopping for personal items					
Going on holiday					
Other: please specify:					

3. Please tell us a bit more about your residential school / college arrangements:

	If yes, please tick here:
I am a week only resident at my school / college and go home on Friday afternoons for the weekend	
I stay at school / college most weekends	
Term time is between 35-38 weeks per year	
Term time is 52 weeks per year	
Is there anything else you want to say about your school / college: _____	

- 4. Do you or your family receive your DLA mobility and decide how it is spent?**
- 5. If someone else manages your money for you, is it a formal (e.g. appointeeship) or informal arrangement?**
- 6. Does your school / college have any policies about how you use your DLA mobility, and if yes, what are these?**

7. **Is your DLA mobility used to fund a Motability vehicle? If yes, does anyone else have access to it and where is it kept? How is this vehicle used by you and you family?**

8. **Is there anything else you would like to tell us about how your personal mobility needs are met?**

How to respond to this call for evidence

The call for evidence will last for 12 weeks, starting on 18th July and running until midnight 10th October.

Please send your responses to:

The Low Review
c/o Leonard Cheshire Disability
66 South Lambeth Road
London
SW8 1RL

E-mail: info@lowreview.org.uk