Responsible Reform

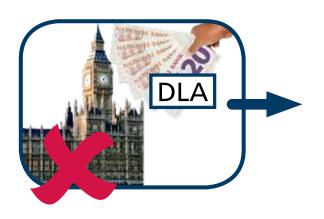
Easy read version



This report is about the Disability Living Allowance.

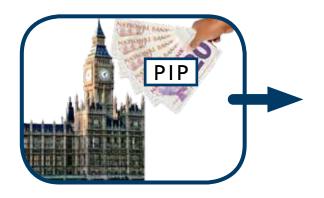


The Disability Living Allowance is a type of benefit that lots of disabled people get to help them live more independently.



The Government wants to stop paying Disability Living Allowance.





The Government wants to pay people a new benefit called the Personal Independence Payment.



This report is about how disabled people feel about this change.



It looks at what more than 500 groups of people said about the Government changes to the Disability Living Allowance.



This report has been written by disabled people.



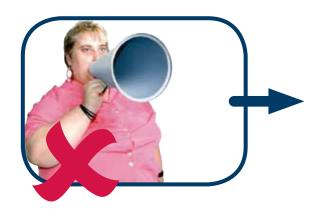
We think that changes to benefits must be made carefully. Disabled people must be involved in the decisions.



We do not think that this is happening at the moment.

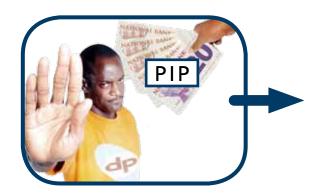


The Government wrote a report on what disabled people think about changes to the Disability Living Allowance.



We think that the Government report does not give a fair picture of what people said about the changes.





Most people said that they did not like the plans for the Personal Independence Payment.



The consultation did not happen in the right way. There was not enough time for people to say what they thought.



The Government says too many more people now get Disability Living Allowance. The Government says this is why the benefit needs to change.



But the Government includes children and older people who won't get the new benefit. Only people who are between 16 and 65 will get the new benefit. So the real number more is much smaller.



The Government says that giving Disability Living Allowance to disabled people stops them from working.



We do not agree.



We think that the Government must stop and think again before making any changes.



Some things people said



The Government asked people questions about changes to Disability Living Allowance.



At the moment there are 3 different amounts paid for Disability Living Allowance. The Government asked if this should change. Nearly everyone said no, this should not change.



The Government report does not say this.



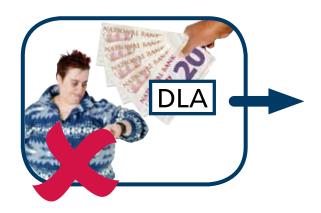
The Government asked if people should stop getting Disability Living Allowance automatically. Nearly everyone said no, this should not stop.



The Government report does not say this.

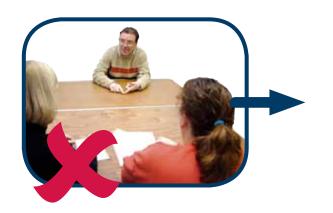


The Government asked if people should have to wait longer (6 months) to get Disability Living Allowance.



Nearly everyone said no, they should not have to wait for 6 months.





Nearly everyone said that there should not be new tests for Disability Living Allowance.



Tests are the thing that disabled people are most worried about.



Most people think that any aids that people use should not affect whether they get Disability Living Allowance.



The Government has not listened to what disabled people say about this.



Everyone said that people in care homes should still get mobility allowance.



We are pleased that the Government has now agreed to this.



Disability Living Allowance helps people to get access to other benefits and support. Nearly everyone said this should not be stopped.



Nearly everyone said that there should be different tests for different benefits. There should not be just one test.





Lots of people are worried that they will find it difficult to report when things in their life change. They are worried that they will lose their benefit because of this.



The Government has not said anything about this or answered people's worries.



Nearly everyone says that people should not have to do special things to get Disability Living Allowance.



The Government report does not say this.



The Government asked whether Disability Living Allowance should be used for one off costs. This could be to buy a communications aid or some equipment.



We think this question is confusing. We want the government to explain this.



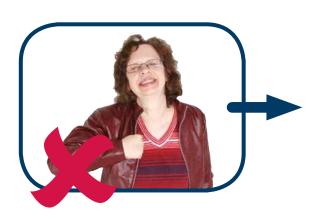
Most people do not like the planned changes to how Disability Living Allowance is reviewed.



The Government has not listened to people's ideas about Disability Living Allowance.



Equality



The Government report does not say how women will be affected.



The Government report does not say how people with mental health needs will be affected.

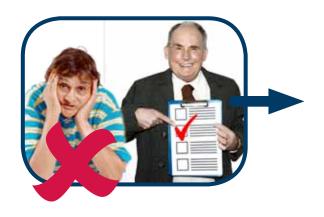


The Government report does not say that the changes will be bad for disabled people.

Rights



There are lots of rights that help to protect disabled people.



Disabled people are worried that the plans for the Personal Independence Payment may be against these rights.



Other things people said



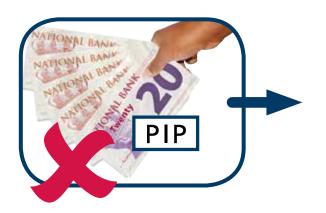
People think that the plan to change from Disability Living Allowance to Personal Independence Payment is just about saving money.



But people also said that the change would cost a lot.



They think it would make things worse for social care and for the NHS.



Disabled people do not think that Disability Living Allowance should change to Personal Independence Payment.



The Disability Living Allowance already saves the Government money.



Cutting the Disability Living Allowance will just mean that costs go somewhere else.



1 in 3 disabled people are very poor. Lots of people think that the Personal Independence Payment will make this worse.



Responsible Reform **Easy read version**

This document is an accessible version produced for Kaliya Franklin and Sue Marsh by United Response. The views expressed are not the views of United Response or its employees.

Easy read version produced for Kaliya Franklin and Sue Marsh by United Response



Vantage House, 1 Weir Road, Wimbledon Park, London SW19 8UX Tel: 020 8246 5200 Fax: 020 8780 9538 **Email: info@unitedresponse.org.uk** www.unitedresponse.org.uk