



Welfare Rights Conference 2024

Scottish social security – progress and plans

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Overview

- Where are we now?
- What have we got coming up next?
- Future improvements



Currently delivered by Social Security Scotland

- Five 'family payments'
 - Three Best Start grants
 - Best Start foods
 - Scottish child payment
- Disability benefits
- Carers' benefits
- Funeral payments
- Heating payments



Progress on family payments

Opportunities to maximise income

- Combined applications for family payments
- Early learning and school age grants awarded automatically if you get Scottish child payment
- Scottish child payment £26.70 pw for each child under 16
- SCP is now a top up benefit but will become standalone
- Earnings thresholds have been removed for Best Start foods

Disability payments

Child DLA	transfer to	Child disability payment
PIP	transfer to	Adult disability payment
Adult DLA (born <u>after</u> 8/4/48)	transfer to	[now] Adult disability payment [from 2025] Scottish adult DLA
Adult DLA (born <u>before</u> 8/4/48)	transfer to	[now] Stay on DLA [from 2025] Scottish adult DLA
Attendance allowance	transfer to	[now] Stay on AA [from 2025] Pension age disability payment

What next? – Scottish adult DLA

- 'Closed' benefit - no new claims
- Launch Spring 2025
- After launch, if you get adult DLA, you'll transfer to Scottish adult DLA not ADP
- Only for adults already getting DLA from the DWP and living in Scotland
- Disability tests same as DLA (except for terminally ill)
- Paid by Social Security Scotland with Scottish system rules for applications and challenging decisions



Scottish adult DLA

- Before launch, reporting a change triggers a transfer from DLA to ADP, after launch transfer to Scottish adult DLA
- Everyone getting DLA will be transferred in stages
- Once on Scottish adult DLA
 - Over 65 on 8 April 2013, stay on Scottish adult DLA
 - Under 65 on 8 April 2013, can apply for ADP if you choose. Initially ADP is same rate as DLA, then reviewed under usual ADP rules. If you claim before end of 2027, you can get mobility component without age restrictions

Do I stay or do I go?



- What if you're on DLA now and your needs increase?
- If you report this to the DWP now you will transfer to ADP if you were under 65 in 2013
- **Note disability criteria different – possible different outcomes**
- If no changes reported, you may stay on DLA until Scottish adult DLA is available

BUT if you don't report an increase in care or mobility needs you could lose out

What next? – pension age disability payment

- For people in Scotland who are over pension age when they claim
- Replaces attendance allowance with same disability tests (except for terminally ill). No mobility component
- Pilot on 21 October 2024 in Argyll & Bute, Highland, Aberdeen City, Orkney and Shetland
- Rollout across Scotland in 2025
- Transfer from AA to pension age disability payment begins early 2025

Looking to the future – ADP review

Independent review considering

- Activities/descriptors for ADP
- Practical experiences of
 - applying,
 - getting decisions and challenging them
 - review process
- Consultation process and ADP guidance for practitioners and decision-making guidance
- Sign-up for their newsletter, adpreview@gov.scot



Carer support payment

Roll out for new claims

19 Nov 2023	Perth & Kinross, Dundee, Western Isles
24 June 2024	Angus, Lanarkshire (North & South)
19 August 2024	Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire, Ayrshire (East, North & South), Fife, Moray
4 Nov 2024	Edinburgh, Glasgow & all other areas
Transfers from carer's allowance	Started 26 Feb 2024 across Scotland

Who can get carer support payment



Carer

- 35 hours a week care
- paid work limit £151pw
- present in GB for 26 weeks
- not 16-19 FE student

Caring for

- Cared for person paid eg,
- ADP or PIP daily living component
 - middle or higher rate CDP or DLA care

Student carers



Carer's allowance rules

Part-time students eligible

Full-time students not eligible

Carer support payment rules

Part-time students eligible

Full-time aged 20 or over eligible

Full-time under 20 not eligible unless in higher education
(limited exceptions for further education students)

Carers in paid work

- Earnings limit £151 a week
- Social Security Scotland gets employed earnings information direct from HMRC – but carers should report changes too
- New rule averages earnings over period covered by payslips, up to 26 weeks
- No need to reclaim if earnings go over the limit temporarily – just report the changes in earnings

Passported benefits and overlaps

Passports	Overlaps
Carer element in UC	State pension
Carer addition in pension credit	Contributory/ new style ESA
CA supplement	Contribution-based/new style JSA
Cared for person loses severe disability premium	Maternity allowance

Looking to the future – carers' benefits

After all CA awards transferred

- Pay carer's allowance supplement with CSP, eg 4 weekly not twice a year
- New carer's additional person payment
- Extend entitlement when someone dies from 8 to 12 weeks

Being consider longer term

- Extend entitlement for people in hospital or care homes;
- Simplify or increase the earning threshold
- Allow 35 hours pw caring to be made up of care for more than one person

Help for advisers in Scotland



Advice by telephone: **0141 552 0552**

Monday to Thursday, 10am - 4pm,
Friday 10am - 12 noon

Advice by email:
advice@cpagscotland.org.uk

Free, independent, expert, up-to-date advice and information to frontline advisers and support staff on all aspects of the benefits and tax credits system.

More resources for advisers can be found at cpag.org.uk/welfare-rights



Training courses

- Carer support payment
- Pension age disability payment
- Transferring to Scottish disability benefits

cpag.org.uk/training

