



Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020

Consultation

Spring 2024

Housekeeping

- Session due to last 90 mins
- Asked for your thoughts at specific points during today's session
- Your feedback will be recorded and contribute to the consultation
- Links to these slides, the full consultation and official submission page will be shared afterwards so you can submit further comments



Click on the hand
icon 🖐️ and speak

or

enter it into the
chat





**Join the
discussion
or
Fill in the
feedback sheet**

Introduction

- most of the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020 will be implemented **April 2025**
- to ensure we can continue delivering and strengthening our safeguarding services whilst offering the best value for money, we are revising how we administer Disclosure Scotland's PVG Scheme and its associated costs.
- any change in fees must be presented by Ministers and passed by Scottish Parliament
- latest consultation launched on 5th March 2024 and runs until **28th May 2024**

Introduction

Today focuses on proposals for fee waivers and discounts contained in the latest consultation, specifically;

- people in receipt of benefits
- care experienced young people
- qualifying voluntary organisations
- accredited bodies



People in receipt of benefits

Receipt of Benefits - Now

- no income-based approach to disclosure fees

Receipt of Benefits - Proposed

- **50% discount** in disclosure fees, including PVG, for those on qualifying benefits
- qualifying benefits include:
 - income-based jobseeker's allowance
 - universal credit
 - personal independence payment under Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012
 - adult disability payment within the meaning given in regulation 2 of the Disability Assistance for Working Age People (Scotland) Regulations 2022
- discount would be provided on any subsequent disclosure if person remains eligible

Receipt of Benefits

PVG Act 2007

- no income-based approach or discounts to disclosure fees



Disclosure (Scotland) Act

- **50% discount** in disclosure fees, including PVG, for those on qualifying benefits
- discount would be provided on any subsequent disclosure if person remains eligible

Do you agree with the proposal to provide a fee discount for people in receipt of certain benefits?

What information do we need to consider when looking at a fee discount for people in receipt of certain benefits?



Care experienced young people

Care Experienced - Now

- no discount to disclosure fees for care experienced young people
- Disclosure Scotland is a corporate parent, proposal based on discussions with organisations who work with care experienced young people, inc Who Cares? Scotland
- other initiatives in place designed to address economic concerns faced by care experienced young people include:
 - council tax exemptions
 - a non-repayable Care Experienced Student Bursary of £9,000 from the Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS)

Care Experienced - Proposed

- **50% discount** in disclosure fees for care experienced young people
- **two options** in how we define who is eligible for discount as a care experienced young person

Care Experienced - Proposed

Option 1

- **50% discount** in disclosure fees for care experienced young people
- Eligibility mirrors criteria for council tax exemptions
- Care experienced young person defined as:
 - over 16 years of age and under 26 years of age
 - has been looked after by a local authority at any time from their 16th birthday onwards
 - is no longer looked after by a local authority

Care Experienced - Proposed

Option 2

- **50% discount** in disclosure fees for care experienced young people
- eligibility mirrors criteria for Care Experience Student Bursary
- care experienced young person defined as:
 - aged between 16 to 25 years
 - have been looked after under:
 - foster care
 - kinship care (arranged by a local authority)
 - kinship care (although not arranged by local authority, the young person must have had engagement/contact with local authority or social work contact during the arrangement)
 - looked after at home or looked after away from home under a Compulsory Supervision Order
 - residential care
- broader eligibility than Option 1

Care Experienced Young People

PVG Act 2007

- no discount to disclosure fees for care experienced young people



Disclosure (Scotland) Act

- **50% discount** in disclosure fees, including PVG, for care experienced young people
- **Option 1**
 - definition of those eligible will match council tax exemption
- **Option 2**
 - definition of those eligible will match Care Experienced Student Bursary

**Do you agree with Option 1
proposal to provide a fee
discount for care experienced
young people?**

**Do you agree with Option 2
proposal to provide a fee
discount for care experienced
young people?**

What information do you think we need to consider when proposing a fee discount for care experienced young people?



Qualifying Voluntary Organisations (QVO)

QVO - Now

- Disclosure Scotland waive disclosure fees for people doing regulated work in a voluntary and unpaid capacity for QVO's
- cost of applications fully met by DS and Scot Gov since 2011

QVO - Now

- Disclosure Scotland recognises the value volunteers bring to the Scottish economy and life
- Disclosure Scotland is also considering broader support to households on low incomes or for care experienced young people
- this will only be achievable if costs can be balanced

QVO - Proposed

- move to a fee discount structure for volunteers doing regulated roles in QVOs.
- **60% discount** for volunteer doing regulated roles in a QVO
- would contribute towards the future sustainability of discounting and fee waivers for households on low incomes or care experienced young people

No decision has been made on this proposal and retaining the fee waiver continues to be an active option

PVG Act 2007

- Disclosure Scotland waives disclosure fees for volunteers for a QVO



Disclosure (Scotland) Act

- **60% discount** of disclosure fee for a volunteer in a QVO
- would contribute to fee discounts for households on low incomes or care experienced young people

Do you agree with the proposal to move to a fee discount for volunteers in QVOs?

What information do we need to consider when proposing a fee discount for volunteers in QVOs?



Accredited Bodies



**An organisation
registered to
countersign any
disclosure**

Accredited Bodies - Now

- Registered Persons countersign Standard, Enhanced Disclosure and PVG applications
- **£75*** annual registration fee for one Lead CSG and four CSGs
- **£15*** annual registration fee for every additional CSG
- **£15*** one off fee to change Lead CSG to a person other than an existing CSG
- special “Responsible Body” arrangement to receive Basic Disclosures on behalf of applicants
- no fee for Responsible Body despite high volume of Basic Disclosures

**Prices since 2011 and have not increased in 13 years*

Accredited Bodies - Proposed

- Registered Persons and Responsible Bodies will become Accredited Bodies, ie an organisation registered to countersign any disclosure
- **£120*** annual registration fee for one Lead CSG and four CSGs
- **£15** annual registration fee for every additional CSG
- **£15** one off fee to change Lead CSG to a person other than an existing CSG
- **£15** one off fee if Accredited Body registers for Level 1 Disclosures but then wishes to upgrade registration for Level 2 Disclosures

**Increase in line with inflation from 2011 would have been £123*

Accredited Bodies

PVG Act 2007

- Registered Persons & Responsible Bodies
- **£75** annual registration fee for 1 Lead CSG and 4 CSGs
- **£15** annual registration fee for every additional CSG
- **£15** one off fee to change Lead CSG
- no fee for Responsible Body despite high volume of Basic Disclosures and additional fees charged by organisation to applicant



Disclosure (Scotland) Act

- Accredited Bodies
- **£120** annual registration fee for 1 Lead CSG and 4 CSGs
- **£15** annual registration fee for every additional CSG
- **£15** one off fee to change Lead CSG
- **£15** one off fee if Accredited Body registers for Level 1 Disclosures but then wishes to upgrade registration for Level 2 Disclosures

Do you agree with the proposal to increase the accredited body registration fee to £120, with additional countersignatories continuing to be £15 per addition?

What information do you think we need to consider in relation to the accredited body registration fee?

**Do you agree with the
proposal to introduce an
account upgrade fee?**

Is there anything else you would like to say about these proposals?



**How can you
contribute to this
consultation?**

Read and share the consultation paper available online

Scottish Government consult

Find and take part in consultations that interest or
also view published responses and analysis.

[Useful information about](#)

Give us your view

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**Submit your
feedback online
on our
consultation page**

**Your feedback will
shape the final
proposals agreed
by ministers**





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Thank You!