# Disclosure **SCOTLAND 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 wand speak

# enter it into the chat

Or





# Join the discussion

Or

# Fill in the feedback sheet



## ntroduction

- 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 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and runs until **28th May 2024**



## Introduction

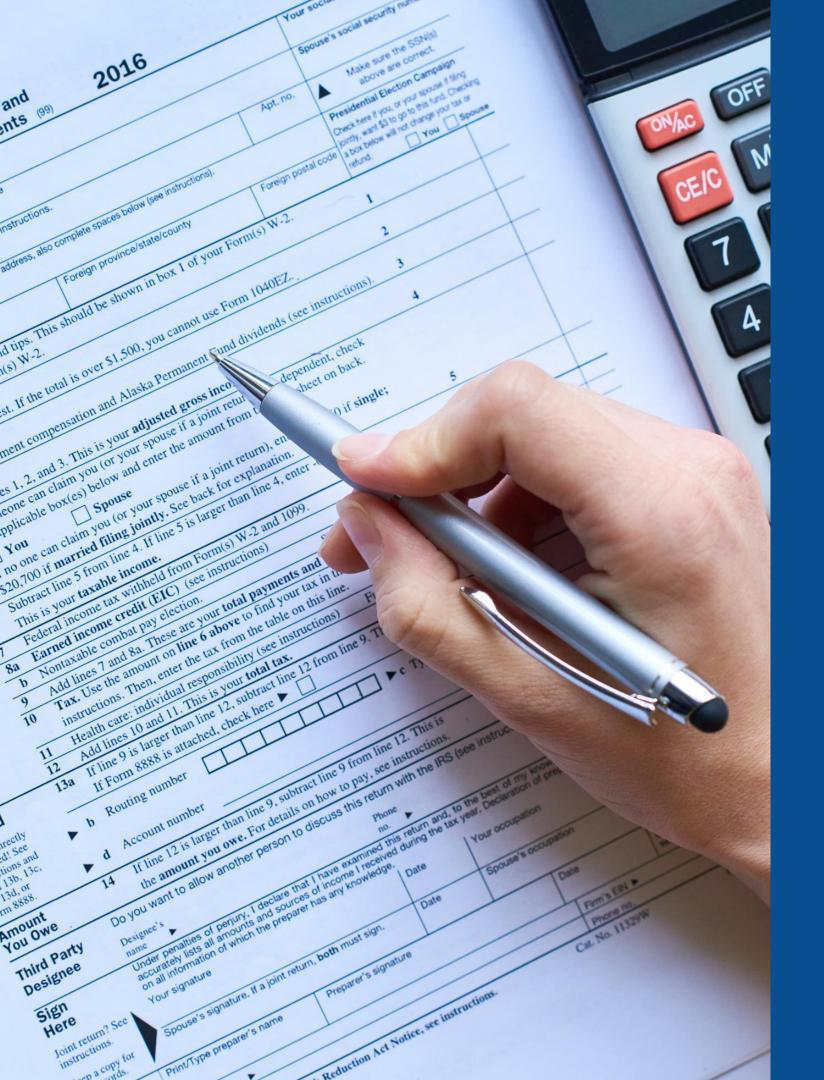
Today focuses on proposals for fee waivers and discounts contained in the latest consultation, specifically;

>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
  - $\geq$  personal independence payment under Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012
  - $\geq$  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 50% discount in disclosure fees, including PVG, for those on qualifying benefits
discount would be provided on any subsequent disclosure if person remains eligible

## **Disclosure (Scotland) Act**



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 16<sup>th</sup> birthday onwards
  - $\geq$  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
  - $\geq$  have been looked after under:
    - ofoster care
    - okinship care (arranged by a local authority)
    - okinship 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)
    - olooked after at home or looked after away from home under a Compulsory Supervision Order
    - oresidential 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





- 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





 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





- 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

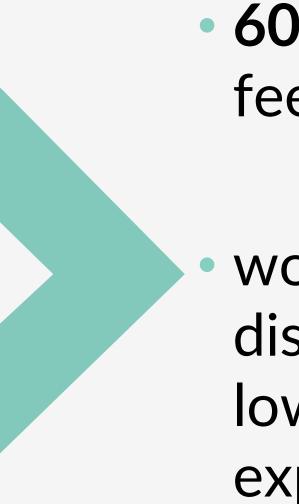
No decision has been made on this proposal and retaining the fee waiver continues to be an active option





## **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





# **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

- **£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

## **Disclosure (Scotland) Act**

Accredited Bodies



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



Home Find Consultations We Asked, You Said, W

## Scottish Government consult

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



## Useful information about

# Give us your vie **Begin consultation >**

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



Your feedback will shape the final proposals agreed by ministers

## Disclosure

# Disclosure scotland

# Thank You!

