## Minister for Social Security and Local Government Ben Macpherson MSP

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Fife MSPs and MPs
City of Aberdeen MSPs and MPs
Aberdeenshire MSPs and MPs
Moray MSPs and MPs
North Ayrshire MSPs and MPs
East Ayrshire MSPs and MPs
South Ayrshire MSPs and MPs

25 July 2022

Dear colleagues,

As Minister for Social Security and Local Government, I wanted to write to you following the successful launch of the third phase of the pilot for Adult Disability Payment today. In Scotland, this new form of disability assistance, delivered by Social Security Scotland, replaces Personal Independence Payment in Scotland, which is delivered by the Department for Work and Pensions.

From today, Social Security Scotland has started accepting new applications for Adult Disability Payment in seven more local authority areas: Fife, City of Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Moray, North Ayrshire, East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire.

This marks the final stage of the pilot before full nationwide delivery from 29 August, as set out below:

Local authority area	Date which we will begin accepting new applications to Adult Disability Payment
Perthshire and Kinross	21 March 2022
City of Dundee	
Western Isles	
Angus	20 June 2022
North Lanarkshire	
South Lanarkshire	
Fife	25 July 2022
City of Aberdeen	
Aberdeenshire	
Moray	
North Ayrshire	
East Ayrshire	
South Ayrshire	
All remaining Scottish local authority areas	29 August 2022

This phased approach will enable a safe and secure introduction of Adult Disability Payment. It will provide the opportunity to ensure our new and improved system, designed in conjunction with stakeholders and people with experience of the social security system, meets the needs of clients.

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See <a href="https://www.lobbying.scot">www.lobbying.scot</a>



In introducing Adult Disability Payment, we are building on the positive feedback that we have received from families and stakeholders regarding our Child Disability Payment. Parents and support workers have told us that the application process has been easier, and less daunting, and that the support offered from Social Security Scotland has been helpful and compassionate. We are committed to delivering Adult Disability Payment in a similar manner, treating people with dignity, fairness and respect.

Alongside the phased roll out of Adult Disability Payment, our local delivery service are also available across every Local Authority area in Scotland. This means that people are able to get advice and support on Adult Disability Payment at a location and time that suits them within their local area.

Specially trained Client Support Advisers are also available to answer any queries about Social Security Scotland benefits, help complete paper, telephone or online applications forms, offer other support such as identity and document verification, and help with submitting change of circumstances information.

## **Case Transfer**

Individuals who currently receive Personal Independence Payment or Disability Living Allowance from the Department for Work and Pensions <u>do not need to apply</u> for Adult Disability Payment, as their award will be automatically transferred to Adult Disability Payment in a phased approach. People will receive the same amount of Adult Disability Payment that they received for Personal Independence Payment, if their circumstances remain unchanged. Social Security Scotland will contact people about their case transfer in due course, when their case is selected for transfer. Cases will transfer in stages starting from this summer and this process is expected to be completed by the end of 2025.

## **Supporting Constituents**

A range of materials to support the launch of Adult Disability Payment and our Local Delivery service are now available on Social Security Scotland's website at <a href="https://www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/quidance-resources/resources">https://www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/quidance-resources/resources</a>.

If one of your constituents is in need of support they can apply online at <a href="https://www.mygov.scot/benefits">https://www.mygov.scot/benefits</a>, by post or through a local face-to-face appointment, and if someone would like to discuss their case they can call Social Security Scotland on 0800 182 2222. Further information on how your constituents can contact Social Security Scotland can be found here: <a href="https://www.mygov.scot/contact-social-security-scotland">https://www.mygov.scot/contact-social-security-scotland</a>.

If you are seeking advice on behalf of your constituents in relation to Social Security Scotland's services, please feel free to contact Social Security Scotland through the dedicated Parliamentarian's advice line on 01382 931600. Social Security Scotland will not need a declaration signed by your constituent in order for you or a member of your staff to make an enquiry.







I would like to thank you as MSPs and MPs in Fife, City of Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Moray, North Ayrshire, East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire for your support and collaboration in promoting Adult Disability Payment and our 12 other devolved Scottish benefits in your constituency and regions.

Best regards,

BEN MACPHERSON



