

New Scottish disability benefit to be introduced

The Scottish Government has announced plans to introduce a Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance for those with a disability or long-term health condition . This would be a like-for-like benefit to enable seamless transition.

The new allowance would provide continued support to around 66,000 adults.

Under new proposals, eligible people who receive Disability Living Allowance through the UK Government's Department for Work and Pensions would have their award transferred automatically to the new Scottish benefit. They would then have the opportunity to apply for Adult Disability Payment if they choose.

Legislation to create the 'closed' benefit – for existing recipients of the Disability Living Allowance that it supersedes – will be laid in the Scottish Parliament this year.

Social Justice Secretary Shirley-Anne Somerville said: "I'm pleased that we can progress plans to bring forward legislation to create a Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance and give people the opportunity to remain on this

benefit for as long as they are eligible.

“Once transferred, people can continue to be paid Scottish Adult Disability Allowance or apply for our flagship Adult Disability Payment if they prefer.

“Around 137,000 people are now receiving our Adult Disability Payment and it has provided almost £462 million to disabled people since it was launched in 2022.”