



## Executive Advisory Body

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday 21 January 2025
<b>Subject</b>	Interim Adult Disability Payment Review Report
<b>Agenda No.</b>	6
<b>Paper No.</b>	5.1
<b>Purpose</b>	Discuss

### 1. Background

- 1.1. Adult Disability Payment launched on 29 August 2022 and is one of fifteen payments that Social Security Scotland delivers. Adult Disability Payment has replaced Personal Independence Payment for disabled people of working age in Scotland.
- 1.2. The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Shirley Anne Somerville, appointed Edel Harris OBE to Chair an Independent Review of Adult Disability Payment. Work began on the independent review in February 2024 and the review will issue its final report in July 2025. An interim report was published in November 2024.
- 1.3. The Independent review engaged with stakeholders and clients to identify areas for improvement and ensure that adult Disability Payment effectively supports those it serves.

### 2. Key points

- 2.1. The Independent Review focused on the following areas of Adult Disability Payment:
  - The activities and descriptors that determine entitlement to Adult Disability Payment, including how these apply to disabled people with fluctuating conditions.
  - People's experiences of applying for, receiving or challenging a decision about Adult Disability Payment or undergoing a review (including unsuccessful applicants).
  - Consultations process and Adult Disability Payment specific guidance for practitioners and decision-making guidance to ensure a rights-based model of social security is being applied.
  - Considering initial priorities capable of early action that do not require changes to the application, decision-making or service delivery, where



those changes offer value, are deliverable and useful regardless of any longer-term changes.

### **3. Conclusions**

3.1. The interim report recommends 42 actions that the Chair of the Review considers capable of early implementation. These actions fall with the following categories:

- Pre-application support.
- Application process.
- Communications and engagement.
- Decision-making Guidance.
- Quality Assurance.
- Supporting information.
- Processing applications
- Decision Notices.
- Re-determinations.
- Third-party Representatives.
- Research and data.

3.2. The Executive Advisory Body are invited to discuss the report and its recommendations with Edel Harris OBE.