

# Drug Death Prevention (Scotland) Bill

## About You

Q1. Are you responding as:

An individual

Q2. Which of the following best describes you? (If you are a professional or academic, but not in a subject relevant to the consultation, please choose "Member of the public".)

Member of the public

Q3. Please select the category which best describes your organisation:

*No Response*

Q4. Please choose one of the following:

I am content for this response to be published and attributed to me or my organisation

Please provide your name or the name of your organisation. (Note: The name will not be published if you have asked for the response to be anonymous or "not for publication".)

Christopher Simpson

Q5. Please provide a way in which we can contact you if there are queries regarding your response. Email is preferred but you can also provide a postal address or phone number. (Note: We will not publish these contact details.)

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Q6. Data protection declaration

In order to proceed, please confirm that you have read and understood the Privacy Notice contained on Page 1

I confirm that I have read and understood the Privacy Notice to this consultation which explains how my personal data will be used.

Q7. If you are under 12 and making a submission, we will need to contact you to ask your parent or guardian to confirm to us that they are happy for you to send us your views.

*No Response*

## Your Views On The Proposal

Q8. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposed Bill? (please note this is a compulsory question)

Partially supportive

**Please explain the reasons for your response.**

I am not an expert on drugs, however I believe that we need to start addressing drug addiction. I am fully supportive of Drug Consumption Rooms, but the creation of OPCs would be a start. People with addictions need gradual withdrawal, and we need to stop turning drug users into criminals and start treating this in the realms of Public Health.

Q9. Do you think legislation is required, or are there are other ways in which the Bill's aims could be achieved more effectively? Please explain the reasons for your response.

Yes, legislation is the way forward.

Q10. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposal to establish overdose prevention centres?

Fully supportive

Q11. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposal for a licensing regime to enable the establishment of overdose prevention centres?

Fully supportive

**Please provide reasons for your response, including on the proposed conditions for licensing (see pages 12 to 14 of the consultation document) and on the proposal that health and social care partnerships are responsible for licensing and scrutinising OPCs?**

Due to the nature of the proposed centres, I think all OPC would need to be regulated, however I am sceptical as to whether this responsibility should be put onto HSCPs. A new regulatory body to oversee OPCs may be a better way forwards. In my opinion, we want to alleviate pressures from HSCPs who already monitor care homes and care providers, do we want to add more pressures to the system? An new, independent body, possibly with recovered users monitoring away from the political and Local Authority system feeding back into health and social care bodies may give us a more balanced view of what goes on and what needs to be improved. Lets continue to treat this as public health and keep politics out as much as possible.

Q12. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposal for a new body, the Scottish Drugs Deaths Council?

Fully supportive

**Please provide reasons for your response, including views on the proposed functions of the SDDC (see pages 14 to 16 of the consultation document) and on how it should operate in practice.**

An independent advisory body sounds a good idea if set up correctly free from political interference. It could measure and assess what's happening on the ground, work with those involved to get ideas and suggestions from users, recovered addicts, support workers and medical professionals to steer future policy. Let's focus on recovery, not prosecution.

## Financial Implications

Q13. Any new law can have a financial impact which would affect individuals, businesses, the public sector, or others. What financial impact do you think this proposal could have if it became law?

skip to next question

## Equalities

Q14. Any new law can have an impact on different individuals in society, for example as a result of their age, disability, gender re-assignment, marriage and civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation.

What impact could this proposal have on particular people if it became law? If you do not have a view skip to next question.

Please explain the reasons for your answer and if there are any ways you think the proposal could avoid negative impacts on particular people.

*No Response*

## Sustainability

Q15. Any new law can impact on work to protect and enhance the environment, achieve a sustainable economy, and create a strong, healthy, and just society for future generations.

Do you think the proposal could impact in any of these areas? If you do not have a view then skip to next question.

Please explain the reasons for your answer, including what you think the impact of the proposal could be, and if there are any ways you think the proposal could avoid negative impacts?

*No Response*