



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

Fully supportive

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

No single measure is the answer to Scotland's drug death crisis. A multi-faceted and evidence-based approach is required. The legislation proposed by Paul Sweeney MSP – including the establishment of overdose prevention centres and the creation of a Scottish Drugs Death Council – would be a significant step forward, alongside other proposals for a legal right to recovery, treatment and harm reduction.

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.

*No Response*

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

Fully supportive

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

People who use substances should be able to attend facilities supervised by trained staff that will help minimise the risk to themselves and others.

As outlined in the consultation document, overdose prevention centres operate efficiently in other countries around the world, reducing drug-related deaths and health burdens, and decreasing public injection and syringe littering. The Netherlands has the highest number of OPCs per capita in Europe and one of the lowest drug death rates per capita. An 'unofficial' safe consumption van recently run by campaigner Peter Krykant in Glasgow is estimated to have saved nine lives from accidental overdose. Many communities in Scotland would benefit from Overdose Prevention Centres with appropriate links to other services. Scotland's drug deaths crisis is a public health emergency that will only be meaningfully tackled through system change and sustainable resourcing. OPCs can contribute to that system change.

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?**

A licensing framework would be essential to ensure uniformity in approach across local Health and Social Care Partnerships. I believe the proposed conditions are adequate.

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.**

I support the creation of a body with strategic independence from the Scottish Government. From the information offered in the consultation document, it would appear the SDDC would improve upon the work of the Scottish Drugs Death Taskforce.

## 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?

some reduction in costs

**Please explain the reasons for your answer, including who you would expect to feel the financial impact of the proposal, and if there are any ways you think the proposal could be delivered more cost-effectively.**

The human suffering and inter-generational trauma caused by substance disorders and premature death is incalculable. The proposals have the potential to make a financial saving, set against the current cost of treating people who have experienced an accidental overdose in hospital and health care facilities.

## 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?

Creating safer spaces for people who inject drugs will prevent needles from being left in public areas and reduce drug use in public spaces, which will improve the amenity and safety of our communities.