

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

Optional: You may wish to explain briefly what expertise or experience you have that is relevant to the subject-matter of the consultation:

I have worked as a volunteer in my community with accreditation through Dundee Volunteer Action, I have campaigned as a candidate at all levels in our legislative structures and served as a Community Council Chairperson. In employment I served for 30 years as a firefighter and as a trade union officer at Regional level. I have at first hand witnessed the appalling toll Scotland's drug emergency has on communities and have lost a loved godson to this avoidable pandemic.

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 (Note: The name will not be published if you have asked for the response to be anonymous or "not for publication".)

James Malone

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.)



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)

Fully supportive

Please explain the reasons for your response.

Mr Sweeney's proposed bill gives focus to prevention in tackling this health emergency. Overdose prevention centres would offer a safe environment for those addicted and thus vulnerable to illness and possible death. My city has been severely impacted by Scotland's Drugs Crisis, hundreds of our citizens have died leaving thousands of family, friends and neighbours to grieve and express their shock, anger and frustration at the Scottish Government's lack of understanding as to the causes of these tragic deaths. Mr Sweeney's bill calls for a new body that will lead Scotland out of the abyss of rising drug deaths in our communities.

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.

Legislation is urgently required, previous efforts, task groups etc have miserably failed to take effective action.

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.

Urgently required, these centres would offer safe, professional assistance to addicts.

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?

Urgently required, licensing would ensure local scrutiny and allow the NHS clear oversight and evidential ability to enforce legislation.

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 absolute necessity, previous Scottish Government bodies have completely failed to meet the nation's drug crisis challenge, this new body must stay focused on the prevention of death and work to reduce the effects of this crisis within our communities.

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 increase 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.

As inflation is currently rampant, costs at first will I feel increase, however the human cost at present is immeasurable, a death removes the victims ability to work, to have family, to contribute to society and to become an integrated member of her or his community. The money spent by the Scottish Government have been misspent to a degree as it has totally failed to meet the challenges faced.

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.

I am unsure as to this question, however Scottish men are at most risk if no changes are made to current government policies.

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?

This proposed bill offers hope for Scotland's communities, this would support recovery in many areas of our lives, health and economy.