

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.

This has to be carefully managed and have very clear aims and objectives, with appropriate training for all administrators involved.

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.

I think the legislation relating to treatment of addiction is inadequate, and that there are many individual organisations offering varying degrees of appropriate/inappropriate support. As a member of the public with an adult son who suffers from drug addiction, I have found the support available to be appalling. There is no true collaboration between agencies, and addicts are stigmatised by medical and social care services. Staffing is insufficient, proper training is required, and the government should have been adopting a proactive rather than reactive approach to tackling drugs harms and drugs deaths. There is also an increasingly dangerous problem with fake pills on the streets and in the homeless units and temporary accommodation in Scotland. These are readily available and life-threatening, due to the fact that they are created by cynical drug pushers, often in unhygienic conditions. My son almost died last year from taking them.

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

Partially supportive

Please explain the reasons for your response.

I think a lot more discussion at government level is required to ensure that such centres would be safe and offer hope to those who would be supported by them. Scotland's government is stuck in a destructive cycle of paying lip service to new drugs initiatives without then putting proper systems in place to allow the nation to really tackle our drugs problem.

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

Partially 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?

I am concerned about health and social care partnerships having this responsibility, because I have not seen much evidence of joined-up care or clear communication between agencies throughout the years of trying to support my son with his addiction issues.

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

Partially opposed

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.

Instead of establishing a new body, seek views from those with lived experience and actually show some compassion and care for those who struggle with mental health issues and trauma related to their addiction issues. Scotland is failing to tackle this issue effectively.

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.

I do not have knowledge in this area, so cannot comment.

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