# **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".)

Professional with experience in a relevant subject

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

Criminal defence lawyer

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 (Note: The name will not be published if you have asked for the response to be anonymous or "not for publication".)

Grazia Robertson

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

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 agree that we need something to replace the current drugs task force and it has to be independent from Government. We certainly need new ideas.

The proposal for centres to provide safe environment for drug takers sounds pretty much like a "shooting gallery" which I think will be unpalatable to a large section of voters.

I have no objection to viewing drug addiction as a health crisis and removing it largely from the criminal justice system, the problem remains that the biggest problem is how to tackle the myriad reasons why people resort to drugs.

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.

It's always helpful to consider what has been tried already and whether and why it has not had sufficient impact. A great deal of financial resources has been poured into drug courts and I am not sure there has been much of a lasting impact on drug taking.

I think an honest reappraisal of the drug court would be helpful.

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

Neutral (neither support nor oppose)

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

It is a bit defeatist as it implies you can't get people off drugs so the best we can do is give them clean needles.

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

Neutral (neither support nor oppose)

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

Partially 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 would need more information re it's makeup and remit. It could easily just become another quango. We have too many of those as it is.

## **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?

No Response

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