

# 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:**

Former Police & Crime Commissioner for North Wales. 2016 - 2021.

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 (Note: The name will not be published if you have asked for the response to be anonymous or "not for publication".)

Arfon Jones

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)

Fully supportive

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

There are a number of positive reasons why a Drug Consumption Room will be a community benefit  
Reduce Drug deaths, reduce transmission of BBV, less stigmatising, reduce asb and Drug litter.  
Reduce fear of crime in seeing people consume drugs in public places.

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 would be desirable, harm reduction is a health intervention and health us devolved so Scots Gov should have power to legislate.

Alternatively the minister and the Lord Advocate could sign a letter of comfort to indemnify Drug workers from prosecution under Section 9, MDA 1971 for facilitating the taking of drugs in a safer injecting facility

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.**

It is a harm reduction initiative proven to be effective in saving lives and is accepted in several countries around the world

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?**

I have no strong views on how OPC's are established. I just support the strategic direction that they are established.

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.**

It's a good idea to have an overview body to make recommendations on this and other initiatives to reduce harm. Important that there is a cross of interested parties and not the usual suspects that fill these public roles.

## 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.**

The cost benefit of OPC's will be neutral or positive compared to the costs to society of drug related deaths.

## 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.

The people who will benefit from this are the ones currently lack equality. This will bring about greater equality.

## 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?

Again this will enhance sustainability in a reduction in deaths, illness and litter as well as asb. It will improve quality of life.