

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:

As a volunteer for the Care Inspectorate I took part in inspection visits to drug rehabilitation centres and had the opportunity to talk to a number of people receiving treatment.

Q3. Please select the category which best describes your organisation:

No Response

Q4. Please choose one of the following:

I would like this response to be published anonymously

If you have requested anonymity or asked for your response not to be published, please give a reason. (Note: your reason will not be published.)

[REDACTED]

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 (Note: The name will not be published if you have asked for the response to be anonymous or "not for publication".)

[REDACTED]

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.)

[REDACTED]

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.

Please tick this box if you are under 12 years of age.

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.

Drug users I spoke with who were in rehabilitation treatment, sometimes for more than one time, said they needed easily accessible help in their local area. Some feared being sent home because they would then be at risk of coercion from dealers and easily drawn back into addiction..One young, very vulnerable young man told me if he was sent home he would be unable to keep himself safe.

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 help on the ground at times of crisis and on going support to manage their addiction is vitally important to users and legislation may be needed to ensure that this is put in place. Best practice from other countries and innovative ideas should not be blocked by legislation.

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.

Drug users need ongoing community support and prevention measures would provide a small part of this.

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

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

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?

Until the supply of drugs can be controlled users need to be offered regular support. Every effort must be made to ensure that this support is properly scrutinised and a licensing regime managed by health and social care partnerships would seem to be a way of using existing resources.

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.

The new body should involve as many people as possible with lived experience and be adequately funded to support innovative proposals coming from this group and their current support workers. Many users are trapped in vicious circles which drag them back despite attempts at rehabilitation, others just want to manage their own usage. Both groups are vulnerable and the new body needs to explore good practice and innovation in order to protect them.

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 Scottish Government should bear the costs of measures to reduce the current death rate. Mobile centres with a regular programme, ie timetables that ensure they will be available on a reliable basis, could cut costs.

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