

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:

Working in emergency homeless accommodation has taught me so much, from both a professional and emotional standpoint. In this role, I have provided essential support to individuals suffering mental health issues, drug and alcohol addiction, domestic and sexual abuse. This, of course, is very challenging at times but I have found it incredibly rewarding to assist people who have nowhere else to turn.

I have built strong connections with many of those I have supported. For example, last year I supported a young woman who was fleeing domestic and sexual violence. Her mental health had deteriorated and she was driven to drug misuse as a means to cope. Unfortunately, this meant that she had had to give up her children which was of course very distressing for her.

There had never been much stability or anyone she could rely upon to help her. It was important to me to provide her with that constancy, reassurance and guidance she needed whilst on the path to recovery.

I believe that a safe environment with no judgement for individuals to learn about harm reduction and gain access to resources is key.

Too many people that I have supported have been arrested for possession of illicit substances when they are in homeless accommodation. I believe that punishing individuals with health issues does not rehabilitate them in anyway. It creates more issues for that person and moves them further away from seeking help because the general consensus is negative towards people with addictions.

This pilot scheme will transform lives and give vulnerable people a chance to get the help they require.

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 (Note: The name will not be published if you have asked for the response to be anonymous or "not for publication".)

Kieran D

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.

I believe a safe place for people will give them access to important resources that will save their lives. It will educate people about blood borne viruses and safe practice. It will provide important information on opiate replacement and Naloxone for harm reduction. It will save lives.

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.

No Response

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

Fully supportive

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

Fully supportive

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?

a significant reduction 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.

Reduction in ambulance call outs

Discarded paraphernalia on the streets will be reduced.

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