

Proposed Sanitary Products (Free Provision) (Scotland) Bill

Page 2: About you

Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

an individual

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

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

No Response

Please choose one of the following; if you choose the first option, please provide your name or the name of your organisation as you wish it to be published.

I would like this response to be anonymous (the response may be published, but no name)

Please insert your name or the name of your organisation. If you choose the first option above, this should be the name as you wish it to be published. If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Please provide details of 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. We will not publish these details.

Page 7: Your views on the proposal

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposed Bill?

Fully opposed

Please explain the reasons for your response

Nothing is "free" we the public will have to pay for this ridiculous idea, along with all the other "freebies" this

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposed Bill?

country hands out at the expense of our NHS, education, transport, to name a few. This is yet more "poor wee souls" nanny state nonsense. The consultation paper explains the difficulties some women experience for a range of reasons. The emphasis is on "some women" not the majority. This minority with problems accessing products should be helped by society through other forum. This is a modern country with a modern outlook, this topic is hardly hushed up. I am female and I have a lot experience of the world and how difficult it can be for people but I have never known anyone think they should get sanitary products for free. What about being responsible for oneself rather than expecting to be entitled to free this and free that. Spend time and our money on more deserving causes such as dignity for the elderly and disabled.

Page 8: Universal provision of sanitary products

Q2. Do you think a universal, card-based system (modelled on the c-card system for free condoms) would be an effective means of providing sanitary products for free to those who need them?

No

Please explain the reasons for your response

I do not agree with this proposal at all as previously stated. This system if introduced will be abused and I bet the estimated cost will be much less than the actual cost if it introduced - tell me something that the Scottish Executive have costed accurately?

Q3. Which of the following best expresses your view in relation to a card-based system?

The card should be available only to those on low incomes or in receipt of benefits; its use should be restricted (e.g. by limiting the number of products that may be claimed each month)

Please explain the reasons for your response.

If this gets the go ahead then it should be severely limited.

Q4. Do you have a view on which locations would be most suitable for dispensing free sanitary products (e.g. GP surgeries, pharmacies, community centres, health clinics)?

GPs, pharmacies, community centres, health clinics are stretched enough with all they have to do. Get the proposer to set up volunteer groups.

Page 11: Schools, colleges and universities

Q5. Do you agree that there should be specific obligations on schools, colleges and universities to make sanitary products available for free (via dispensers in toilets)?

No

Please explain the reasons for your response

What is wrong with people either carrying some with them or paying if caught short? That's what we have been

Q5. Do you agree that there should be specific obligations on schools, colleges and universities to make sanitary products available for free (via dispensers in toilets)?

doing for decades!

Page 12: Personal experience (questions 6 and 7 are for individual respondents only)

Q6. Have you ever struggled to access or afford sanitary products during menstruation? (e.g. financial barriers, unexpected circumstances, health issues)

No

Q7. If sanitary products were available for free, which of the following would apply to you?

I would not expect to claim free products

Please explain the reasons for your response

They aren't free, we would be paying for this through tax.

Page 14: Financial implications

Q8. Taking account of both costs and potential savings, what financial impact would you expect the proposed Bill to have on:

| | Significant increase in cost | Some increase in cost | Broadly cost-neutral | Some reduction in cost | Significant reduction in cost | Unsure |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------|
| (a) Government and the public sector (e.g. local authorities, the NHS) | X | | | | | |
| (b) Colleges and universities | X | | | | | |
| (c) Businesses (including suppliers/retailers of sanitary products) | X | | | | | |
| (d) Individuals (including consumers of sanitary products) | | | | | X | |

Q9. Are there ways in which the Bill could achieve its aim more cost-effectively (e.g. by reducing costs or increasing savings)?

Q9. Are there ways in which the Bill could achieve its aim more cost-effectively (e.g. by reducing costs or increasing savings)?

No if this gets through where us the money coming from, what service us going to be cut as a result?

Page 16: Equalities

Q10. What overall impact is the proposed Bill likely to have on equality, taking account of the following protected characteristics (under the Equality Act 2010): age, disability, gender re-assignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion and belief, sex, sexual orientation?

Negative

Please explain the reasons for your response

Out of all the groups above, women are being favourably treated, shouldn't all the other groups then have a similar amount of money invested in them, i.e. equivalent to the cost of free sanitary products?

Q11. In what ways could any negative impact of the proposed Bill on equality be minimised or avoided?

None.

Page 18: Sustainability

Q12. Do you consider that the proposed Bill can be delivered sustainably i.e. without having likely future disproportionate economic, social and/or environmental impacts?

No

Please explain the reasons for your response:

This has to have an impact economically due to cost and socially due to it applying to one group. Economically will there be more waste because something is "free"?

Page 19: General

Q13. Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the proposal?

Bin it.