

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.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?

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Fully Supportive

Please explain the reasons for your response

I believe that your access to sanitary products should not be determined by your wealth. Sanitary products are an expensive necessity and I feel this Bill adequately combats a major inequality facing woman in society - that of period poverty.

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?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your response

Yes, I think a universal, card-based system is the best method in ensuring access to sanitary products.

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

The card should be available to anyone; 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.

I believe a card-based system should be available to anyone, with restricted access to sanitary products is a good first step - with the view to an increased roll out.

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)?

I believe health centres, pharmacies etc - and perhaps even retailers such as Boots and Superdrug - would be suitable for dispensing free sanitary products.

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)?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your response

Yes - I believe educational institutions should provide means to make sanitary products available for free. Specifically in colleges and universities where students already face economic barriers and high costs

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)?

associated with student living.

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

Please explain or give an example of your experience if you feel able to do so.

Fortunately I have never majorly struggled financially in purchasing sanitary products, however after moving out of my family home one year ago and living on a reduced wage, I did struggle with day to day costs (and sanitary products was probably one of them). I feel the price of sanitary products is unjustly expensive given they are a basic necessity for females.

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

I would hope to not expect to claim free products as I am currently in a secure financial situation. However if I was in dire straits, I would like for the option of free sanitary products to be accessible.

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...)				Y		

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

consumers of sanitary products)						
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Please explain the reasons for your response

I believe the financial impact of the Bill would not be great in terms of cost. I am of the opinion that institutions such as colleges, universities and businesses could probably afford to contribute.

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

I believe the Bill provides an adequate solution to combat inequality associated with sanitary product access.

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?

Positive

Please explain the reasons for your response

I believe the Bill will have a positive impact on young females. I feel it is breaking down barriers and stigma associated with menstruation whilst opening up a societal discussion on the issue.

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

No Response

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?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your response:

I believe that the Bill can be delivered sustainably, however I think there needs to be more education regarding periods provided to school children.

Page 19: General

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

No Response