

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".)

Student (at school, college or university)

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 am content for this response to be attributed to me or my organisation

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Chloe Meechan

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 Supportive

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

Please explain the reasons for your response

I am fully supportive to the proposed bill to end Period Poverty. I'm a 17 year old high school student who suffers from Endometriosis. I feel like sanitary products are a basic essential that all girls and women should have easy access to. Menstruation is a normal body function so why shouldn't tampons and pads be provided in toilets? I can say that I and a substantial number of my peers have been in school and a period has come unexpected where you find yourself in a stressful situation which quite frankly shouldn't be a problem to begin with. Sanitary product being provided in toilets would rid this stigma and make pupils more confident about attending school when on their period. This is a huge step forward for woman and equality also creating awareness about periods and menstruation in general.

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

This would mean that women and girls have access to sanitary products and it still remains a confidential scheme as some women find this process embarrassing and wouldn't be able to walk into a supermarket and access the free products.

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

The card should be available to anyone; card-holders should have unlimited access to free sanitary products

Please explain the reasons for your response.

no matter your circumstances I feel like this should be an open scheme for all women like the provision of free condoms for men.

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)?

schools, pharmacies, GP surgeries and youth clubs.

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

This is a vital necessity to make girls feel less stressed and more confident within the school environment.

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)?

Knowing that they will be covered when sanitary products are concerned.

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)

Yes, occasionally

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

They aren't a cheap essential. With me having endometriosis, i require more products than the average person more over including pain relief and heat pad.

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

I would expect to claim free products occasionally

Please explain the reasons for your response

i would require enough to support me each month. that being if i pay for some myself i would also like to access some when needed.

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)?

No Response

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

it will make women feel more able in certain environments in their lives. Girls can go to school less stressed about taking or being on their period.

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

MEN SUPPORT THIS NEED FOR WOMEN.

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:

CUTS CAN BE MADE TO LESS NEEDED FIELDS

Page 19: General

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

The fact that this topic has never been discussed in parliament is quite shocking and I think Monica Lennon is an amazing woman who can do great things for Scotland and equality.