

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.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

**Please explain the reasons for your response**

Main reason for opposition- Cost & the logistics, of giving every secondary school sanitary products would be far to expensive. A easier way would be to give people on low income or on benefits a voucher book to buy through supermarkets which already have sanitary products. Also It's more about young people being too embarrassed to ask their parents, for sanitary products. People also want all their luxuries, smoking, drinking they need to get their priorities wright, after all sanitary products can be bought for £0.60p or less. Why pay for it when the nanny state will keep you. Men buy razor blades and shaving cream all very expensive items, of course we don't have to shave we could all be cave men.

## 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**

A book of vouchers with barcode so they can be scanned at supermarket checkout.

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)

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)?

Supermarkets would be the easiest with voucher, where would GPs etc keep them, and as I said the logistics of restocking all these different places would add extra cost.

## 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**

If it's free why buy it, how can this be for people on low income or benefits, if you then give them away for free in schools, colleges & universities?

## 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)

Not applicable: I do not need or use sanitary products

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

Not applicable: I do not need or use sanitary products

## 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                            |                       |                      |                        |                               |        |

**Please explain the reasons for your response**

The cost of premium sanitary products may go up as fewer people may buy them.

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

Voucher book for those who need it, redeemed through supermarkets as they already have them in the store would be the cheapest way.

## 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?

Neutral (neither positive nor negative)

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

At the end of the day this bill is all about politicians, trying to win votes, just like the SNP, free baby boxes all at the expense of the tax payer.

## 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

## Page 19: General

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

*No Response*