

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Madeline isbister

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

Please explain the reasons for your response

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

I am fully supportive as I have believed for years that women should not pay tax on sanitary protection at all. It is very expensive and I am coming from a place where I have had problems since I was 12 years old. Requiring to purchase lots and lots of products. Children , homeless etc should be given these products free! They will not have a voice for themselves so let us be there voice on this delicate subject!

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?

Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your response

I am not sure as could this be embarrassing for people having to go into a chemist with a card? Not sure it depends on how these items are being dispensed. Girls shouldn't pay for the items until are working and then it should be no tax.

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.

If it was up to me all females would be supplied with sanitary protection free!!!! It doesn't have to be tampax brand it could be cheaper brand.

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)?

Maybe chemists, doctors surgeries, maybe Ben supermarkets with a card.... so you can buy them any place.

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

Again at school, college and university you are not working so it should be available and free. However once again I do believe if it was men who took a period - these items would have been free from the day dot!

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.

Yes I am in full time employment, I have two children and as I mentioned I have so many problems and at times have bled for 5 months constant..... wearing both towels and tampon.... that costs a fortune!

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 claim once a month and the rest of the time I would pay myself.

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

It will cost the government money however the benefit put ways the cost. We currently supply methadone to drug users with no questions asked to help them abuse themselves. Women and girls are no abusing themselves they are forced to have a period as nature made..... who why would the Scottish government not take the first step to resolve this issue. This has been a debate I have held in my head for many years and I am glad to see we are now talking about these issues.

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

I think if everyone is given one token or card a month and given one packet of tampons and sanitary towels..... then any others can be purchased. I am positive this will not cost too much money if ordered in bulk by the government! The other day I paid £2 for two tampax! That was in my work machine dispenser now that is day light robbery! If bought from Lidl one full box for £1.

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

For me it show equality! Women are not out of money to get by each month when men don't have to pay anything!

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

For me there are no negative impacts at all only positive. Let Scotland lead the way!!!

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:

Again I don't believe there will be any economic negatives. As the government would be buying these from manufacturers!

Page 19: General

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

Please lead the way and let's show the rest of the world how equality is done in Scotland!