

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.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

People have to have responsibility for their own lives. This smacks too much of the nanny state. Everything for

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

free. I feel that I am more than qualified to pass my opinion of this subject having been a battered wife with an alcoholic husband who did not work. The money I got from the state was basic and I lived in shame for having to accept it. I still provided sanitary products for three daughters and myself and this was just part of life and my responsibility. I would never have accepted free sanitary products. I was entitled to free school dinners for my children but never once claimed them, not even with four children to feed. I kept the fact that my husband was unemployed from my children's schools for a period of fifteen years. I never claimed an allowance for school clothes in fact I never claimed any extra allowances for that would have branded my children as "poor". I grew my own vegetables in the garden and everything my children ate I cooked from scratch. I dressed myself from jumble sales for almost twenty years. In that time I never bought myself a new pair of shoes but my children always wore new Clark's shoes. Most importantly I never got into debt. If I did not have the money to pay for something I did without. That way I kept my head just above water. Once my children were at high school I sat in the classrooms of another local school and managed to obtain five O grades and two highers. I became a registered nurse. Unfortunately I don't think this facility for adults gaining qualifications by attending day school is available now. It was my lifeline and means of escaping from poverty and husband. The more you hand out for free the more people become dependent on these handouts instead of accepting responsibility for themselves and this dependence on the state very often carries on down through generations of families. Everything for nothing only creates a dependant society. At the end of the day someone has to pay for these handouts. I think the money would be better spent on the essential services like police, fire, healthcare and education which are on their knees at present. No country can afford to keep on handing out freebies like this to the public. Enough is enough.

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?

Please explain the reasons for your response

Everything for free.

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

Other (please specify)

Please explain the reasons for your response.

I do not agree with the Bill.

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)?

no view I don't agree they should be free.

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)?

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No

Please explain the reasons for your response
as before

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, frequently

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

Yes I struggled to supply sanitary products for my three daughters and myself but budgeted for them even although I was living in poverty.

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

Please explain the reasons for your response

Not required but I would never have claimed them no matter how poor I was.

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)						
(d) Individuals (including consumers of sanitary products)						

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

Please explain the reasons for your response

None. the last two questions makes no sense to me.

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 the Bill should be withdrawn. It will cost the country a fortune.

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

Just what is equality. Who makes up these questions?

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

By binning the Bill.

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:

I already have.

Page 19: General

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

Stop this freebie madness.

