

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Marie young

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?

Having your period every month is expensive but if you are like I was and had very heavy periods that would last a week and a half at a time it was even more expensive when you would have to change 4 or 5 times a day I know I was not alone in this. I never understood why a necessity like this was so expensive when I had very little money I had to make my own .

## 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**

Because this would enable all girls and women the choice to access sanitary towels regardless of whether they had money or not

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.**

I have chosen this because different women have different needs I would however hope that those who have significant incomes would buy their towel/tampons rather than use their card

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)?

Go surgery. Health clinics and pharmacies

## 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 this where the most vulnerable girls are especially if the families are having financial difficulties

## 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.**

I was a single parent with 2 girls at one point in my life. Although I worked I was on a low wage but had to make sure the girls were catered for even if I had to make do what I spent on the three of us made a difference between beans and toast or a proper meal

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
<b>(a) Government and the public sector (e.g. local authorities, the NHS)</b>		X				
<b>(b) Colleges and universities</b>		X				
<b>(c) Businesses (including suppliers/retailers of sanitary products)</b>		X				
<b>(d) Individuals (including consumers of sanitary products)</b>					X	

**Please explain the reasons for your response**

If each of the above sectors spread the cost between them it should reduce the cost for the consumer I don't think anyone sector should be made wholly responsible for the full cost. I have a small shop and have sanitary products in the toilet for those who need them the ladies that are in the shop have never abused this so far although I am aware that some may.

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

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I think reducing the cost would be the best way but there are some who may still not be able to afford them if there is more than 1 female in the house

## 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**

Because a lot of women feel that they are discriminated against because they have a period and that the company's that make them make massive profit out of something that more or less every women needs for 30 to 40 years count that up it is scandalous

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

I don't see many negatives they still need to be produced but women will no longer be exploited for mega profit

## 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:**

The manufacturers will still get what they need the cost can be spread over reveal sectors

## Page 19: General

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

No