

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.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

Please explain the reasons for your response

I am 100% behind this. I think it's shocking in this day and age that there are girls who are having to miss school for 1 week every month due to not having the basic sanitary supplies. This is an issue that should have been dealt with a long time ago. Even if they are not made free to every woman there should be some sort of place for people that can not afford them to have access. You can get condoms free from sexual health clinics and through the NHS. You don't need to have sex.

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

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.

The card should be available to anyone! However if this is not possible it should at least be available to people who genuinely need it. I would think it would be difficult to restrict how many you allow people each month as every woman's period is different. Some have heavier flows and last longer and some lighter and only last a couple of days. If you restrict the amount you can get then you could end up with people still being in a position that they can't leave their house as they don't have sanitary products.

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)?

I think they should be available from 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

I think this is the most important people that should be getting free sanitary products. No body should miss out on education because of their period!

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)

No

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

I have always been fortunate enough to have money to buy them.

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

I would expect to claim free products regularly

Please explain the reasons for your response

I would expect to be able to claim these every month when I was due my period.

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

This should be available on the NHS. If they will pay for people who have smoked to have treatment, people who have knowingly caused themselves damage why would you not pay for something that is out of every woman's control. It should not be down to the individual, college's or business's to take on these costs. I would suggest that a low cost product was available and if someone wanted a branded product then they would have to pay for this. The same way as you if you needed paracetamol for a baby you would get the standard one

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

through the NHS but if you wanted calpol you would have to pay for it yourself.

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

As mentioned previously, I think only budget brand should be available for free and if people want to buy specific brands then so be it.

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

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

I don't understand why you think there would be a negitive impact due to equality. Surely this is only making woman more equal as they will not be missing out on vital education?

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

Page 19: General

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

No Response