

# 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".)

Professional with experience in a relevant subject

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.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

**Please explain the reasons for your response**

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

Fully supportive, I feel as if this should of been put in place a long time ago.

## 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**

I feel as if the c card system wouldn't be effective as I don't feel as if the machines are that accessible in my area.

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

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)?

Community centres, pharmacies, high schools and community hubs.

## 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 feel as if there should be a specific obligation for them to dispense them free as when I was at school sometimes your period would come unexpectedly and you would often be left asking a friend if they had anything and if you were lucky they did but sometimes at lunchtime I would find myself having to walk home then back to school to sort myself which effected my learning time.

## 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)

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Yes, occasionally

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

When I used to get a cycle I was between 12-15 I am now 21. I found financial barriers when asking parents to buy sanitary products as they were poor or with working patterns I did not see them to ask.

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				

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

I feel as if the Bill could keep at a lowish cost if it was rolled out to under 21's in schools, colleges and universities to begin with and see if the sanitary products are being used or accessed to begin with.

## 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?

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Positive

**Please explain the reasons for your response**

I feel as if it will have a positive impact in equality as it is a part of being a female yes but sanitary products are expensive.

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

I think the negative impact will be money

## 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:**

I think if the investment is put in place and additional funding from the government or sanitary companies lower the cost it will be successful.

## Page 19: General

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

I feel as if equality is a big factor in this proposal and that we will be getting it right for all female young people by having the free sanitary products.