

# 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".)

Student (at school, college or university)

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Eva Sigurdardottir

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?

Periods are out of anyones control, and women should not have to pay for something that is as essential as toilet paper. Although 1 pound may not seem like a lot, i believe that for many women this is. Therefore, many are having to choose between eating or paying for suitable products that can be used when on your period. For these reasons, I fully support this bill.

## 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 uncerain, I feel like this is still quite a complicated way of getting it, wheras at times women just have time to go to the shops, however, this would definitely be very ideal.

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.**

Women should not have to pay for these products, just as you can get free condoms used for safe sex - an act which can either be done or not done, period sanitary products should be free, especially as women havent got a choice whether or not they want to be on their period.

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 pharmaces and community centres could be the best places as these are very apparent in the communitis and easy to access.

## 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 that having these products easy access is essential. Also having these placed in dispencers would start tearing appart the taboo that still often lies around the topic of periods - and girls wouldnt feel ashamed as this can be seen as a very normal thing. Most importantly i think this would be the best thing because it would be very easily accessed.

## 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

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**

soon ill be at university and i will have to get these myself - Whereas my parents buy these for me at the moment. From talking to older friends, i know that this is something that is difficult to afford when having to pay for food etc with little wage. Therefore, i can imagine i will be applying for free sanitary products regularly.

## 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**

Money is already used on condoms and this doesnt seem to be having a massive effect in all of these.

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

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

I am unsure.

## 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**

Younger ages dont need to depend on their parents to buy these, the subject may become less taboo, same sex relationships where there are two females will have much less costs per month.

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

i am unsure.

## 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 can only imagine this will have a positive effect - This is something most women need at some point in their lives, this will also mean that money spent previously on sanity products will be spent on other things such as food etc.

## Page 19: General

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

I jusy hope that this happens.