

Proposed Organ and Tissue Donation (Scotland) Bill

#125



COMPLETE

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PAGE 2: Proposed Organ and Tissue Donation (Scotland) Bill Consultation

Q1: The overarching purpose of my proposal is to move from the current opt-in system to a soft opt-out system of organ donation. Do you support this move? Please indicate "yes/no/undecided" and explain the reasons for your response.

No

Q2: How essential is it to change the law (from an opt-in to a soft opt-out system) in order to achieve the intended benefits (increased transplant rates, reduced waiting lists)? Are there other (non-legislative) measures that could achieve similar outcomes without the need for legislation?

Fundamentally I believe that the donation of organs is a gift and that it is the very act of giving that gives families some small degree of positivity after the death of a loved one. I have been involved in organ donation as a clinician in the Emergency Department for the last 7 years and have heard many debates on this issue. Everytime it is the family's view that decide the argument for me in favour of an opt-in rather than an opt-out. This should sit above the perceived need to increase transplant rates.

Q3: I believe the role of the family should be limited to being consulted on whether they are aware of any (unregistered) objection by the deceased rather than asking for their consent. Do you agree? Please indicate "yes/no/undecided" and explain the reasons for your response.

No

Q4: Do you think an individual should be able to appoint a proxy to the make the final decision regarding transplantation on their behalf? Please indicate "yes/no/undecided" and explain the reasons for your response.

Yes

Q5: My proposal is that only adults should be automatically opted-in to be a donor. Younger persons would have to register to be a donor, by themselves or with parental consent as they currently do. This approach is I believe the best way to safeguard children and young people. Do you agree? Please indicate "yes/no/undecided" and explain the reasons for your response.

No

Q6: Do you agree the age limit for an adult should be set at 16 years old? Please indicate "yes/no/undecided" and explain the reasons for your response.

Yes

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Q7: Do you agree the soft opt-out system should apply to people who have been resident in Scotland for a minimum period of 1 year prior to their death? Please indicate "yes/no/undecided" and explain the reasons for your response.

No

Q8: If you answered no to the above how long, if any, should this period of residency last before they become subject to the soft opt-out system? Would this residency need to be for a continuous period?

I do not believe in an opt-out system

Q9: Do you think 6 months is a long enough period to run a campaign prior to change over?

n/a

Q10: What is your assessment of the likely financial implications (if any) of the proposed Bill to you or your organisation? What (if any) other significant financial implications are likely to arise?

Respondent skipped this question

Q11: Is the proposed Bill likely to have any substantial positive or negative implications for equality? If it is likely to have a substantial negative implication, how might this be minimised or avoided?

Respondent skipped this question

Q12: Do you have any other comments on or suggestions relevant to the proposal?

I am currently leading a DCD2 programme from the Emergency Department side in Edinburgh. I do not think that I would feel comfortable continuing such a programme given the adoptions of an opt-out state despite it probably increasing potential. As I stated above, organ donation is a gift that should be given, not assumed.

PAGE 3: Contact Details

Q13: If you wish your response, or any part of it, to be treated as anonymous and/or confidential, please check the appropriate box. If not, then please go to question 14.

Respondent skipped this question

Q14: Thank you for completing this survey. Please provide your name and contact details below.

Name

Company

Address

Address 2

City/Town

State/Province

ZIP/Postal Code

Country

Email Address

