

INCOMPLETE

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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.

Please give your reasons for your response: I think that organ and tissue donation is too important and too personal an issue for anyone to be automatically enrolled onto. It is something that should involve reflection and discussion for each individual, so no one should be automatically enrolled without their clear and explicit consent.

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?

I think that if the NHS are not receiving enough donations of organ and tissue to meet their current needs, they need to engage in a more comprehensive education campaign, rather than automatically enrol anyone.

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,

Please give reasons for your response: Under the current opt-in system, if the individual has not clearly expressed a desire to donate their organs, the assumption should be that they have no wish to do so. Therefore, if they have opted-in to organ donation, their family consent is not necessary, and if they haven't, then the family are the only source of information concerning their wishes.

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.

No.

Please give reasons for your response: Transplantation and organ donation are highly personal and extremely important decisions. If the individual concerned has not made their wishes clear, then the assumption under the current system should be that they do not wish to undergo these procedures. Moreover, it is too much responsibility to place on somebody else. 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,

Please give reasons for your response:
I agree that all people, younger people included, should have to register as an organ donor. My concern is that those aged under 18 should not be able to register without parental consent, as they may not fully understand the ramifications of what they are committing to, and should have a concerned and responsible adult helping them to make that decision.

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.

No.

If you answered no, what would you consider a more appropriate age?
As 18 is the generally accepted age for an adult in the UK, there is no reason to make an exception in this case.

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.

Undecided,

Please give reasons for your response: As I do not agree with the soft opt-out system, I don't think the answer to this question is relevant.

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?

N/A

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

No. I think it should be at least a year.

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?

None

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?

Negative; I think that those who are better educated are more likely to be aware of how to opt-out, should they so desire.

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

Respondent skipped this question

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.	Respondent skipped this question