

#173

**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.**

Yes,

Please give your reasons for your response:  
It is important that organ donation be supported in the best way possible. This is achieved by increasing the number and range of organs. Dead people's bodies can be put to good use rather than just burying or burning them.

**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 believe we need to go down the route of changing the law so that those who are not proactive in making provision for organ donation are included as potential donors. Those who wish to opt-out should be the ones who have to be proactive in ensuring they registered as an opt-out. By default everyone should be an organ donor.

**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.**

Yes,

Please give reasons for your response:  
When people die this often results in outpourings of grief and emotion. Families and relatives can become irrational. This process should be as free of emotion and irrationality as can be.

**Q4: Do you think an individual should be able to appoint a proxy to 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:  
It should be as much of a default situation as can be achieved. If you don't want your organs to be used to save lives then you should be the one who has to take steps to make sure this doesn't happen. Everyone else, by default, is a donor. Appointing a proxy will just introduce delays and confusion which is not what is needed.

**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:  
Parents/guardians should take steps the necessary to ensure that younger people are opted-out. If they don't then this group would also be in the default situation whereby their organs would become available for transplant. I don't see any rational reason why this should not be done.

**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,

If you answered no, what would you consider a more appropriate age?  
This would be in line with other areas where age limits are applied.

**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.**

Yes,

Please give reasons for your response:  
We need as many donors as we can get. People are asked to deal with all sorts of administrative aspects in life - birth and death certificates, driving licence, insurance etc. Giving people one year to ensure they are registered as opt-out is plenty of time.

**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?**

*Respondent skipped this question*

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

I would give it 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?**

can't think of any either way

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

good luck and bring it on as soon as you can

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*

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**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

