

#182

**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?

Respondent skipped this question

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 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.

Respondent skipped this question

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

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.

Respondent skipped this question

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?

Respondent skipped this question

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?

Yes! Negative: see below

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

I am not convinced that the public know enough about what donation entails, particularly in donation after cardiac death. In reality, we mean patients who are in intensive care and in whom consideration is being given to withdrawal of life sustaining therapy (on the basis of futility). There is a massive potential conflict of interest here. The senior clinician making the decision on futility/ burden of care of life sustaining treatment has a perceived potential conflict of interest if this patient is a potential donor. Organ donation enthusiasts (doctors) may ultimately be influenced in their decisions on treatment for their patient (the donor). I don't think the public appreciates this. I don't think doctors do this intentionally, it is a significant point for debate which has just not been had in the public arena. Does the public trust doctors enough when making end-of-life decisions if they have one (unintentional) eye on their organs??? I say this as a doctor in intensive care.

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.

Anonymous

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

