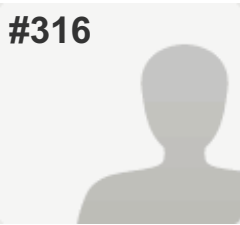


#316

**INCOMPLETE****Collector:** Web Link 3 (Web Link)**Started:** Wednesday, September 24, 2014 2:50:01 AM**Last Modified:** Wednesday, September 24, 2014 3:32:05 AM**Time Spent:** 00:42:04**IP Address:** 86.134.184.37

## 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.**

Undecided,

Please give your reasons for your response:  
I have been on the Organ Donor Register for many years. I respect the opinions of those who do not wish to be a donor. For those people who have never expressed an opinion, it must not be assumed that they did not care either way. However, after detailed consultation and questioning of family etc, assuming that there is still no evidence that the potential donor expressed an opinion either way, then they ought to be considered as a donor.

**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 can understand that it would bring more potential donors into play but I cannot comment on whether or not it is essential or rather most desirable.

**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:  
Yes but..... In order to carry the public with these changes, the consultation must be honest, detailed and deeply aware of the grief loved ones will be experiencing. Understandably, there will be a measure of urgency in proceeding but the consultation must never be considered as a lip-serving exercise. It must be realised at all levels that, ultimately, the consultation must be recognised as genuine by the families, not only the medical/legal fraternities.

**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,

Please give reasons for your response:  
This option could prove decisive in carrying public support. If an individual has made this choice before death, then it is clear that the topic of organ donation has been discussed prior to death. If, for an example, a dying person did or did not want to be a donor and the closest loved one had a different view, then it is quite natural that a dying person would not want to add more distress to the loved one by insisting on their own choice. In such a scenario, leaving the final decision to the loved one after death could be quite understandable and the proposed change in the law MUST respect the choice, whatever the outcome.

**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.**

Yes,

Please give reasons for your response:  
The death of a young person is traumatic enough without the state being thought to be 'stealing organs' as well.

**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?  
The legal age for adulthood is 18 years old. This should not be confused with the legal age of consent (for sexual activity.)

**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:  
Probably reasonable since you could hardly include holidaymakers and business visitors.

**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?**

Depends on which organisations are involved how good the campaign is!

**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?**

Not qualified to judge.

**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?**

Possibly, so the clear 'opt-out' option must be given equal prominence in all literature and campaign material.

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

I agree that 'waiting for Wales' is an abdication of the Scottish Government's own total responsibility for health matters in Scotland. It needs to get on with the job.

**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*