

#319

**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:
An opt-out system would make a significant improvement to Scotland's health service by vastly increasing the quantity of organ donations, while allowing people to remove themselves from the scheme.

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?

Increased awareness of the importance of donation may make some difference to levels of participation, however, the extent to which this would work is limited and an opt-out scheme would ensure a consistent and high level.

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.

Undecided,

Please give reasons for your response:
Undecided. There should be a high level of awareness of the change to an opt-out scheme, and as such the responsibility falls on the individual to remove themselves from the register. However, there should be some allowance for close family to register an objection on behalf of a deceased relative in some circumstances.

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:
There needs to be provision for people who cannot make their own decision. This needs to be secure with strict criteria.

<p>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.</p>	<p>Yes,</p> <p>Please give reasons for your response: Opt-out should only apply when those in the scheme are deemed to be aware of the risks and what it means for them. Given the current system requires younger persons to be registered under different rules, this should be taken in to account and incorporated in to an otherwise opt-out scheme.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Undecided</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Undecided,</p> <p>Please give reasons for your response: It needs to be clear to residents of Scotland that an opt-out system is in place.</p>
<p>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?</p>	<p><i>Respondent skipped this question</i></p>
<p>Q9: Do you think 6 months is a long enough period to run a campaign prior to change over?</p> <p>Undecided. There needs to be good public awareness before the system launches and therefore an appropriate amount of time for the campaign.</p>	
<p>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?</p>	<p><i>Respondent skipped this question</i></p>
<p>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?</p>	<p><i>Respondent skipped this question</i></p>
<p>Q12: Do you have any other comments on or suggestions relevant to the proposal?</p>	<p><i>Respondent skipped this question</i></p>

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



1. 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. An opt-out system would make a significant improvement to Scotland's health service by vastly increasing the quantity of organ donations, while still allowing people to have full control over what happens to their organs post mortem by allowing the option of opting out of the scheme. I strongly believe that this proposal has the potential to save many, many lives in Scotland.

2. 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?

Increased awareness of the importance of donation may make some difference to levels of participation, however, the extent to which this would work is limited and an opt-out scheme would ensure a consistent and high level.

3. 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.

Undecided. There should be a high level of awareness of the change to an opt-out scheme, and as such the responsibility falls on the individual to remove themselves from the register. However, there should be some allowance for close family to register an objection on behalf of a deceased relative in certain circumstances where perhaps the family have a specific belief or opinion regarding organ donation.

4. 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. There needs to be provision for people who cannot make their own decision. This needs to be secure with strict criteria.

5. 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, opting-out should only apply when those in the scheme are deemed to have a true understanding of what organ donation means and how important it is, as well as all the associated implications. Given that the current system requires younger persons to be registered under different rules, this should be taken in to account and incorporated in to an otherwise opt-out scheme.

6. 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. If you answered no, what would you consider a more appropriate age?

Undecided

7. 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.

8. 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

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

Undecided. There needs to be good public awareness before the system launches and therefore an appropriate amount of time for the campaign.

10. 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?

N/A

11. 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?

12. Do you have any other comments on or suggestions relevant to the proposal?