

#355

**COMPLETE**

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)

Started: Tuesday, October 14, 2014 9:06:26 AM

Last Modified: Tuesday, October 14, 2014 9:18:31 AM

Time Spent: 00:12:05

IP Address: 86.161.12.253

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:
I strongly believe that the majority of people, if given a chance, would want to save another life. This change would provide for a greater range of people to provide that life saving organ to others. This would not only make the lives of so many people better, but also reduce the drain on our health system of simply trying to patch up those unlucky individuals who still await a transplant.

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?

It is vital. I do not believe that education, greater information campaigns or any other activity would have as direct an impact on the number of organs available for transplant as a soft opt out option.

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:
In the current system it is still possible for people to opt out of their relatives personal choice. It would be far better if people were assumed to opt in, then allowing for their family members with the correct education as to the positive benefits of organ donation to represent their family members personal choice. It's hard to see how people would want their deceased loved one not to save somebody else's life.

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:
I think it should be an opt in, unless you have specifically decided to opt out. Nobody should be forced to make that choice at an emotional time, and more importantly it may leave the deceased person badly represented due to the trauma of the event.

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 think that everyone should be opted in, unless chosen to opt out. Why should young people requiring a transplant be less likely to receive it than an adult? Would this also not create a problem of older children and younger adults having a greater demand on the organs that could save their lives?

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?
If there was an age of opt in then 16 seems fair, they are old enough to train in the armed services or have a child, they were old enough to decide Scotland's future.

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:
If someone is living in this country for a period of time long enough to be considered resident, such as a 1 year, it seems they would be able to understand the desire to help provide for another person in that countries better standard of living and continued life.

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?

Yes.

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?

I think it will reduce the burden on the NHS in reducing the number of people on life sustaining treatment who could be cured or substantially improved by a transplant.

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?

A massive positive implication for equality.
People with disabilities related to organ function would potentially have a higher standard of living.

On a possibly different front, it may be that when organ donation is seen to cross gender, religious, cultural and ethnic grounds with no true limitations because of those things, people feel more closely related.

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

I think this would show Scotland as a the progressive and considerate country that is dedicated to the health and well-being of its citizens, and that I am proud to live in.

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.

- Name
- Company
- Address
- Address 2
- City/Town
- State/Province
- ZIP/Postal Code
- Country
- Email Address

