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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 such an important matter and many people forget to opt in but if it is important to people not to do this for whatever reason, they will be able to easily opt out. It makes total sense.

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 think an opt in system is the best 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:
 It is up to the individual, not their family, and family members may have different views to the deceased.

Q4: Do you think an individual should be able to appoint a proxy to the 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:
 Just like power of attorney, if the individual is unable to articulate their choice for whatever reason, a trusted person could make the decision on their behalf. That person would need to know the individual's leaning, though.

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:
 As stated, to safeguard young people.

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?
 It is 16 for many of our other laws.

Proposed Organ and Tissue Donation (Scotland) Bill

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:
As long as a limit is set and agreed, it wouldn't matter if the time limit changed slightly but one year seems fair.

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?

Not aware of any.

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?

I don't see how it would have an impact on equality.

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

It's a great idea and could potentially save many lives if implemented properly.

PAGE 3: Contact Details

Q13: If you wish your response, or any part of it, to be treated as anonymous or confidential, please check the appropriate box and state the reason for this. If not, then please go to question 14. If I accept the reasons, I will publish it as "anonymous response" or only publish the non-confidential parts of the response. If I do not accept the reasons, I will let you know and give you the option of withdrawing it or submitting it on the normal attributable basis.

Respondent skipped this question

Q14: Thank you for completing this survey. For the purposes of the consultation, it would be helpful if you could provide your contact details.

Respondent skipped this question