

#420

**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,

Please give your reasons for your response:  
Evidence has shown that people are more inclined to "gift" their organs (and their families will support this decision) rather than having their organs "taken" from them.

**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?**

There is no need for this law. It is pointless. Given then changed to the welsh system, the NHS Organ Donor register will already allow individuals to both opt in and opt out. Scotland has by far the highest proportion of people on the Register (41% vs 32% for the rest of the UK). Changing the law will only serve to change people's perception of organ donation of being a valuable and worthy gift (the current view) to being a "big brother" style decree that they will (as early indications show in Wales) start to act against.

**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 the 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:  
As the law currently stands all individuals need to do is tell their family their wishes. This is already respected and works well.

**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 do not believe in opt in. The current situation is working very well and the numbers of donors is increasing year on year.

**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?  
I do not believe in opt in. The current situation is working very well and the numbers of donors is increasing year on year.

**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.**

No,

Please give reasons for your response:  
I do not believe in opt in. The current situation is working very well and the numbers of donors is increasing year on year.

**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?**

I do not believe in opt in. The current situation is working very well and the numbers of donors is increasing year on year.

**Q9: Do you think 6 months is a long enough period to run a campaign prior to change over?**

Absolutely not. I do not think that the law should change.

If it does change then there will need to be at least a two year lead in time for education and awareness raising. Prior to this we should wait and see what happens in Wales. Indications to date show the introduction of this law has been detrimental to the organ donation rates. There is no need to rush in to this. We should wait and learn lessons before we change a system that is not only working well but has shown year on year improvements.

It is not broken. It is actually improving. Why mess with a situation that is improving ahead of other countries?

**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?**

Financial implications are not important. The proposed bill will reduce the number of donors, make conversations with families of potential donors more difficult and will ultimately have a detrimental effect on the organ donor waiting list and increase the cost to the NHS in Scotland. Introducing this bill is irresponsible and unnecessary.

**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?**

Unless we wait and see the impact of the introduction of the law in Wales, we can't know.

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

None

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

