

Proposed Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill

Introduction

A proposal for a Bill to enable competent adults who are terminally ill to be provided at their request with assistance to end their life.

The consultation runs from 23 September 2021 to 22 December 2021.

All those wishing to respond to the consultation are strongly encouraged to enter their responses electronically through this survey. This makes collation of responses much simpler and quicker. However, the option also exists of sending in a separate response (in hard copy or by other electronic means such as e-mail), and details of how to do so are included in the member's consultation document.

Questions marked with an asterisk (*) require an answer.

All responses must include a name and contact details. Names will only be published if you give us permission, and contact details are never published – but we may use them to contact you if there is a query about your response. If you do not include a name and/or contact details, we may have to disregard your response.

Please note that you must complete the survey in order for your response to be accepted. If you don't wish to complete the survey in a single session, you can choose "Save and Continue later" at any point. Whilst you have the option to skip particular questions, you must continue to the end of the survey and press "Submit" to have your response fully recorded.

Please ensure you have read the consultation document before responding to any of the questions that follow. In particular, you should read the information contained in the document about how your response will be handled. The consultation document is available here:

[Consultation Document](#)

[Privacy Notice](#)

I confirm that I have read and understood the Privacy Notice attached to this consultation which explains how my personal data will be used.

On the previous page we asked you if you are UNDER 12 YEARS old, and you responded Yes to this question.

If this is the case, we will have to contact your parent or guardian for consent.

If you are under 12 years of age, please put your contact details into the textbox. This can be your email address or phone number. We will then contact you and your parents to receive consent.

Otherwise please confirm that you are or are not under 12 years old.

No Response

About you

Please choose whether you are responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation.
Note: If you choose "individual" and consent to have the response published, it will appear under your own name. If you choose "on behalf of an organisation" and consent to have the response published, it will be published under the organisation's name.

on behalf of an organisation

Which of the following best describes you? (If you are a professional or academic, but not in a subject relevant to the consultation, please choose "Member of the public".)

No Response

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

Representative organisation (trade union, professional association)

Optional: You may wish to explain briefly what the organisation does, its experience and expertise in the subject-matter of the consultation, and how the view expressed in the response was arrived at (e.g. whether it is the view of particular office-holders or has been approved by the membership as a whole).

We represent the interests of the Black British community in the UK, with links to other diaspora internationally. Including Windrushers.

Please choose one of the following:

I am content for this response to be published and attributed to me or my organisation

Please provide your Full Name or the name of your organisation. (Note: the name will not be published if you have asked for the response to be anonymous or "not for publication". Otherwise this is the name that will be published with your response).

The Black British Human Rights Watch.

Please provide details of a way in which we can contact you if there are queries regarding your response. Email is preferred but you can also provide a postal address or phone number.

We will not publish these details.

Aim and Approach - Note: All answers to the questions in this section may be published (unless your response is "not for publication").

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposed Bill?

Fully opposed

Please explain the reasons for your response.

This Bill, unwittingly, plays into the hands of those who promote "radical racial eugenic". The destruction of particular parts of society based on race, disadvantage, etc. It has a smell of Nazi Germany, and the destruction of "useless" slaves, at the end of their lives.

Q2. Do you think legislation is required, or are there other ways in which the Bill's aims could be achieved more effectively? Please explain the reasons for your response.

There is no need for additional legislation on this matter. Clearly there is an issue around the effective application of palliative medication and resources for patients. That must be corrected to prevent the drive towards "self-destruction".

Q3. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposed process for assisted dying as set out at section 3.1 in the consultation document (Step 1 - Declaration, Step 2 - Reflection period, Step 3 - Prescribing/delivering)?

Fully opposed

Please explain the reasons for your response, including if you think there should be any additional measures, or if any of the existing proposed measures should be removed. In particular, we are keen to hear views on Step 2 - Reflection period, and the length of time that is most appropriate.

If a person has been manipulated by relatives, medical staff, etc, to believe that they are not worthy of life, then it is just a simple step, to convincing them, that they have capacity and "expertise" to decide on how to kill themselves when they are not fit to do so. Dr Harold Shipman showed us how easy the decision of life and death, can be subtly taken out of the hands of patients, using the pretext of "care and relief". It must never be allowed to happen again. We must stand firm in opposition to the slightest chance of exploitation "to death" of the slightest vulnerabilities. In effect, pressure salesmanship.

Q4. Which of the following best expresses your views of the safeguards proposed in section 1.1 of the consultation document?

Fully opposed

Please explain the reasons for your response.

How can anyone guarantee any safeguard, when we are not in the room to have direct oversight over clinicians, etc, who may feel they have the right to extinguish life. That is wishful thinking.

Q5. Which of the following best expresses your view of a body being responsible for reporting and collecting data?

Fully opposed

Please explain the reasons for your response, including whether you think this should be a new or existing body (and if so, which body) and what data you think should be collected.

Q5. Which of the following best expresses your view of a body being responsible for reporting and collecting data?

I oppose this aspect as being perverse. It is like collecting stats on the "eliminated". I strongly oppose this slippery slope.

Q6. Please provide comment on how a conscientious objection (or other avenue to ensure voluntary participation by healthcare professionals) might best be facilitated.

It can not. We have seen cases where those who "oppose" an enacted 'law', are themselves, persecuted , sacked, vilified, and run out of town, as 'non-co operators'. I presume, this would place individuals in the unenviable position, of being laid open to legal prosecution, charges, fines and imprisonment, for something they genuinely object to for moral, ethical or religious reason. People will be maliciously targeted and abused for being "non-believers", in the 'culture of assisted suicide aka as extermination.

Financial Implications

Q7. Taking into account all those likely to be affected (including public sector bodies, businesses and individuals etc), is the proposed Bill likely to lead to:

a significant increase in costs

Please indicate where you would expect the impact identified to fall (including public sector bodies, businesses and individuals etc). You may also wish to suggest ways in which the aims of the Bill could be delivered more cost-effectively.

The increase would fall squarely onto the shoulders of the public purse. If, for example, there a pattern of death about the very poor, then the burden of cost would have to be assumed by us. In addition, if relatives, or interested parties decided to take legal action against public authorities, businesses, etc, this could lead to an increase in closures and bankruptcies.

Equalities

Q8. What overall impact is the proposed Bill likely to have on equality, taking account of the following protected characteristics (under the Equality Act 2010): age, disability, gender re-assignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation?

Negative

Please explain the reasons for your response. Where any negative impacts are identified, you may also wish to suggest ways in which these could be minimised or avoided.

I am concerned that those in the Black British community will be maliciously targeted. We have already seen evidence, of older people being targeted for fraud and elder abuse. I dread to think of the consequences if we go this one step too far. This Bill will give legal permission to abusers to kill those they intend to exploit financially. We know of a few cases already, where criminals have already turned their "trade" into a de facto industry.

Sustainability

Q9. In terms of assessing the proposed Bill's potential impact on sustainable development, you may wish to consider how it relates to the following principles:

- living within environmental limits
- ensuring a strong, healthy and just society
- achieving a sustainable economy
- promoting effective, participative systems of governance
- ensuring policy is developed on the basis of strong scientific evidence.

With these principles in mind, do you consider that the Bill can be delivered sustainably?

No

Please explain the reasons for your response.

We have not even come close, to recognising the unforeseen consequences and loop-holes of this Bill. We may as well hang a sign outside, advertising that it is open season, for a form of legalised murder. We may even see, convicted criminals taking legal action against the government, claiming that the murders, etc they committed, were acts of "care and relief", as well as acts of "kindness". Infanticide, will become the norm, for fed up, bored and drug-fuelled mothers, and teenagers, (16 years plus), on a whim, will be murdering and casually killing their children, girlfriends and boyfriends, using the 'mitigation' that they were delivering a form of "assisted suicide". Setting their victims "free" of the daily drudgery and "pain" of daily life.

General

Q10. Do you have any other additional comments or suggestions on the proposed Bill (which have not already been covered in any of your responses to earlier questions)?

This Bill must be stopped, and never again allowed to progress in any format. The racial and religious aspects are of strongest concern. We must not allow unfit people to become "eugenics, racial hygiene selectors".