

# Proposed Domestic Abuse (Prevention) (Scotland) Bill

## Introduction

A proposal for a Bill to make provision for the prevention of domestic abuse and improve support for those affected, including by requiring: those convicted of offences related to domestic abuse to provide information for a register; use of this information to prevent further harm; use of rehabilitation measures in relation to offences related to domestic abuse; collation and reporting of data related to domestic abuse; and domestic abuse education in schools.

The consultation runs from 29 August 2022 to 20 November 2022

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 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

Third sector (charitable, campaigning, social enterprise, voluntary, non-profit)

**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).**

Amina MWRC is a leading grassroots women's rights organisation for BME and Muslim women. We are recognised for delivering a responsive approach to addressing the key issues facing BME and Muslim women in Scotland. Amina deliver the national helpline for Muslim and BME women, befriending support, domestic abuse advocacy , financial advocacy, employability support and creative wellbeing.

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. (Only give the name of your organisation if you are submitting a response on its behalf).

(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).

Amina (Muslim Women's Resource Centre)

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.

Phone or email

**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? (Please note that this question is compulsory.)

Partially supportive

**Please explain the reasons for your response.**

The register can potentially highlight the prevalence of domestic abuse and the movements of serious repeat offenders. The Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland has been an effective tool in keeping many women safe, this is only active once a request on the basis of right to ask is submitted by concerned members or individuals. The proposed domestic abuse prevention bill can make it easier and simplified for Police Scotland to track serious offenders, especially if those offenders move to another local authority and to also disclose to women who may be at risk of further harm. More scrutiny will need to be done on the implementation of disclosures with current GDPR rules. Implementation of this bill and proposed information of the offender on the register will need to be managed by the relevant authorities. Resources will need to be available for this bill to be fully effective. We especially support the mandatory reporting and capturing of data with BME women. We currently have a lack of disaggregated data with ethnicity and gender based violence within Scotland. We would welcome Police Scotland reporting honour based abuse and forced marriage statistics as well as how many BME women have been victims of domestic abuse within Scotland.

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

Better data capturing for BME women is absolutely needed in Scotland. We welcome further scrutiny of this bill and the potential impact this can have for women. More details will be needed on the bill and the implementation to decide if this bill is needed and more importantly if it will be effective. With the prevalence of domestic abuse we welcome any legislation that can help victims. We look forward to discussing the need and effectiveness for keeping women safe with this bill.

## Domestic Abuse Register

Q3. Which of the following best expresses your view on creating a register of those convicted of domestic abuse related offences?

Partially supportive

**Please explain the reasons for your response. Please include any views you have on the list of policy details set out in bold on pages 23 and 24 of the consultation document.**

We are supportive of a bill that can help keep women safe, we will be fully supportive once further scrutiny of the implementation of this bill is done.

## Rehabilitation Measures

Q4. Which of the following best expresses your view of introducing mandatory rehabilitation measures for those convicted of domestic abuse?

Neutral (neither support nor oppose)

## Data

Q5. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposals for data collection and reporting set out in the consultation document in bold on pages 30 and 31?

Fully supportive

**Please explain the reasons for your response including what information could usefully be collated and which groups in society could most benefit from improved information on their access to domestic abuse services and support.**

We fully support better data capture especially around BME women experiencing abuse in Scotland.

## Education

Q6. Which of the following best expresses your view of introducing mandatory education in schools on domestic abuse?

Fully supportive

## Financial Implications

Q7. Any new law can have a financial impact which would affect individuals, businesses, the public sector, or others. What financial impact do you think this proposal could have if it became law?

a significant increase in costs

**Please explain the reasons for your answer, including who you would expect to feel the financial impact of the proposal, and if there are any ways you think the proposal could be delivered more cost-effectively.**

Creating a new register will require resources and investment, this is true for any services delivering around domestic abuse. Cost implications can only be done once the details of the implementation of the bill are decided.

## Equalities

Q8. Any new law can have an impact on different individuals in society, for example as a result of their age, disability, gender re-assignment, marriage and civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation.

What impact could this proposal have on particular people if it became law? If you do not have a view skip to next question.

Please explain the reasons for your answer and if there are any ways you think the proposal could avoid negative impacts on particular people.

The bill can have an impact on BME communities especially if there will be a requirement to capture data around BME women and domestic abuse. BME women are still the most marginalised in Scotland and we would welcome any law that can further the equalities of BME women in Scotland.

## Sustainability

Q9. Any new law can impact on work to protect and enhance the environment, achieve a sustainable economy, and create a strong, healthy, and just society for future generations.

Do you think the proposal could impact in any of these areas? (If you do not have a view then skip to next question)

Please explain the reasons for your answer, including what you think the impact of the proposal could be, and if there are any ways you think the proposal could avoid negative impacts?

*No Response*

## 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)?

*No Response*