

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.

an individual

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".)

Member of the Public

Optional: You may wish to explain briefly what expertise or experience you have that is relevant to the subject-matter of the consultation.

I was raped and suffered serious domestic abuse by my ex a police officer. It took my life on a different trajectory and I am working towards reporting it to the police with support from victim support and others. I was almost murdered and only realised in the past year or 2 that I have been living in survival mode for so long scared to speak out . There are many women who who have either been murdered or committed suicide who can't tell thier story . My hope is by telling mine women may find the hope they need to carry on and that as we all speak up our society will see domestic abuse for the evil it is . I contacted Russell Findlay and emailed you both re this.

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

No Response

Please choose one of the following:

I would like this response to be published anonymously

If you have requested anonymity or asked for your response not to be published, please give a reason (Note: your reason will not be published):

[REDACTED]

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).

[REDACTED]

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.

[REDACTED]

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.)

Fully supportive

Please explain the reasons for your response.

I was severely abused by my ex a police officer . I tried to warn his next victim married him and contacted me after they split She had been abused and then understood what I was warning her about . I feared for my children's life's so could not agree to jointly complain about either the abuse or police handling of it . She was forced to leave her job as a civilian in the police and move away .

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.

I have been affected for over 40 years since the rape to force me to marry him at 18 . It like I got a life sentence . I believe he may have also abused his 3rd wife . Women may avoid being taking in by men like this if the legislation is in place . I feel the law and the attitudes within police Scotland and our society needs to be used in every possible way to help prevent women being abused and it swept under the carpet.

Domestic Abuse Register

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

Fully 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.

Women who are abused are often crippled with fear and shame and misjudged . It is time to put the blame firmly upon the abuser . The shame is thiers and it may deter some if they thought it would be public knowledge.

Rehabilitation Measures

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

Fully 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 page 26 of the consultation document.

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

I think making rehab mandatory may in some cases bring home to the abusers that his behaviour is wrong and unacceptable. This may help them to become accountable and change .

I also know that many of these men will not respond so care must be taken to assess where they really are and address that . Since many are skilled manipulators good at turning on the charm and saying what people want to hear . They are good at blaming thier victims .

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.

Domestic abuse has been hidden so gathering the information may help to discover the true extent of the problem so it can be addressed .

Education

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

Fully supportive

Please explain the reasons for your response including any comments on the issues in bold on page 32 of the consultation document.

I witnessed my father abusing my mother and was determined it would not happen to me . However I did not understand coersive control . My ex flashed his warrant card and took control from that moment. It was not until I saw the domestic homicide timeline my life made sense . Why would you marry the guy who raped you . I believed him when he said no one would believe me as he was a police officer .

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?

some 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

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?

cost-effectively.

The financial cost is secondary to ensuring the recovery and survival of those who have been abused and addressing the injustice they have suffered . The cost to them in lost opportunity , mental and physical health etc is much higher . I have been getting help and am now realising for over 40 years I have been surviving not living the life I intended . I cannot get those years back but if by speaking out I can help stop others suffering the same way then at least something will come out of it .

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.

If it is implemented well it could be part of the change that is needed . It would give a clear message that domestic abuse is wrong . The abusers won't like it but it could help to free the women they abused .

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?

I think there are many abused women who could contribute to all areas of our society. Many of them like myself found themselves controlled and unable to be all they were created to be . Justice brings Healing and restoration and these women have much to contribute to our society now and to build a better future for the following generations . That hope is driving me forward to report what happened to me with victim supports and others help .

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)?

As I am preparing to report the abuse to the police I do not want my name published until after it is done . After that I will speak publicly and will be happy to share my story . I am involved with others recovering

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)?

from domestic abuse and I am interested in working with those that seek to deal with domestic abuse in Scotland.