

# Proposed Right to Addiction Recovery (Scotland) Bill

## Introduction

A proposal for a Bill to enable people addicted to drugs and/or alcohol to access the necessary addiction treatment they require.

The consultation runs from 7 October 2021 to 12 January 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:**

Heavily dependent upon alcohol up until 15 years ago. I think I can propose a highly cost effective method for recovery from any addiction that I'd like to see as a mainstream prescription.

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):**

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).

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 supportive

**Please explain the reasons for your response. We would welcome comments on any experience you have had of accessing, or trying to access, addiction treatment.**

I self funded a day's course for alcohol addiction at the Allan Carr clinic in London. They guarantee success and although most people only need to attend for a day, I had to go back for two further sessions at no extra cost until I was cured. They cover all addictions and as a starting point, doctors could prescribe the relevant Allan Carr book as this might be enough to get people to give up smoking/drink/drugs/dieting. I have loved every day of being alcohol-free, and would never return. I don't feel deprived or resentful of anyone who is drinking. I'd really encourage this method being used - book only costs about £10, and the course, if needed, was £250. Perhaps get these centres set up in our major cities?

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.

The SNP administration is so incompetent that there seems little option but to legislate.

Q3. How do you think the right to treatment established in the Bill would be most effectively implemented and enforced? Tick all options that apply.

Duty on Scottish Ministers

Duty on Health Boards

Duty on Integration Joint Boards (IJB's)

Established targets/standards

Requirement for the Scottish Government to report progress on duty

Other (For example Local Authorities - please specify below).

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

An integrated and holistic approach is required - addiction comes from a dark place and I needed the help of my GP, counsellor, change of diet to eat foods that were good for depression and the Allan Carr course. The Allan Carr course turned the corner for me.

Q4. Which of the following best expresses your view of creating a specific complaints procedure, in addition to the existing NHS complaints procedure?

Fully supportive

**Please explain the reasons for your response. We would welcome comments on any experience you have had with the existing NHS complaints procedure.**

I have a friend who is being passed from pillar to post with a possible cancer scare right now and is

Q4. Which of the following best expresses your view of creating a specific complaints procedure, in addition to the existing NHS complaints procedure?

complaining everywhere. No one is helping her. We need to avoid these complaints going into a black hole.

Q5. Which of the following best expresses your view of allowing those suffering from addiction to choose a preferred treatment option, and for them to receive that option unless deemed harmful by a medical professional?

Fully supportive

**Please explain the reasons for your response. We would welcome suggestions about how this could work in practice.**

You can't force someone to change - the fear of being deprived of the addiction can be overwhelming. I'd really encourage an holistic approach to the person's wellbeing and to help their families too. Too often it's only the GP's opinion that seems to matter but that can be inadequate as a treatment. The root cause needs to be addressed as well.

Q6. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposed Bill seeking to prevent treatment being refused?

Fully supportive

**Please explain the reasons for your response. We would welcome suggestions about how this could work in practice.**

We've lost thousands of people due to this issue and it's a stain on the SNP's record in administration. The poor families who are grieving should be sufficient a wake up call for a proper call to action to help them. It's heartbreaking.

Q7. Which of the following best expresses your view of requiring the Scottish Government to establish a national funding scheme?

Fully supportive

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

I had to pay for my treatment - families in Scotland are not so lucky and money shouldn't be a barrier to getting the help people need and it will be offset in the long term with savings in the NHS as we won't have to treat so many cancer patients due to smoking, liver & heart disease due to fewer alcoholics, less crime due to drugs or less alcohol fuelled domestic violence

## Financial Implications

Q8. 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:

some 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.**

Any addiction should be tackled first with the Allan Carr book - less than the cost of two prescriptions. Course is one day and costs c. £250 and guarantees success - far more cost effective than expensive in house services and quickest results. Make mental health a priority to help tackle the root cause. If allan Carr fails and people need really specialist help, then get them into intensive drug treatment.

## Equalities

Q9. 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?

Positive

**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.**

No matter what your background, we should all be treated equally

## Sustainability

Q10. 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?

Yes

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

Addiction is psychological - should be a limited impact on environmental. Allan Carr method works immediately so should get a fast return

## General

Q11. 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)?

Thanks to Douglas Ross & Conservatives for bringing it forward. The number of deaths is so shameful and I feel for those families who have lost someone or who are trying to help someone get through this.