

Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Bill

Page 2: About you

Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

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)

Please choose one of the following; if you choose the first option, please provide your name or the name of your organisation as you wish it to be published.

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

Please insert your name or the name of your organisation. If you choose the first option above, this should be the name as you wish it to be published. If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

PAMIS (Promoting a More Inclusive Society)

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.

Page 7: Your views on the proposal

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposal of giving children equal protection from assault by prohibiting all physical punishment of children?

Fully Supportive

Q2. Could the aims of the proposal be better delivered in another way (without a Bill in the Scottish Parliament)?

No

Please explain the reasons for your response

Requires legislation in order to be effective

Q3. What do you think would be the main advantages, if any, of giving children equal protection from assault by prohibiting all physical punishment of children?

It will of course keep children safe from harm from parents and others in different settings in which children are cared for.

Q4. What do you think would be the main disadvantages, if any, of giving children equal protection from assault by prohibiting all physical punishment of children?

There are no disadvantages for children. Children deserve the right to be free from harm.

Page 11: Financial implications

Q5. Taking account of both costs and potential savings, what financial impact would you expect the proposed Bill to have?

Broadly cost-neutral

Please explain the reasons for your response

Costs of expensive investigations and court cases and the man hour time involved would result in a significant saving due to the implementation of this proposed bill.

Page 12: Equalities

Q6. What overall impact is the proposed Bill likely to have on the following protected groups (under the Equality Act 2010): race, disability, sex, gender re-assignment, age, religion and belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity?

Positive

Please explain the reasons for your response

There will be an overall positive impact on all above groups. However, PAMIS would like to highlight that in relation to children with learning disabilities this proposed bill will have a significant impact on their well-being. Currently, where there is difficulty in understanding communication of children with a range of learning disabilities, unfortunately this often results in unnecessary restraint and seclusion, within education settings. This is detrimental to well-being of both children and staff as well as contravening

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U.N.C on The Rights of the Child. Please refer to <http://www.parliament.scot/gettinginvolved/petitions/PE01548>

Q7. Could any negative impact of the proposed Bill on any of these protected groups be minimised or avoided?

Appropriate awareness, knowledge and understanding of this bill should be made available to avoid misunderstandings that could have a negative impact on some.

Page 14: Sustainability of the proposal

Q8. Do you consider that the proposed Bill can be delivered sustainably i.e. without having a disproportionate economic, social and/or environmental impact?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your response:

As previously stated it is believed that this will have a positive social, environmental and financial impact.

Page 15: General

Q9. Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the proposal?

Please refer to the responses to the consultation link provided in this feedback.

Thank you