

# Proposed Wellbeing and Sustainable Development (Scotland) Bill

## Introduction

A proposal for a Member's Bill to ensure policy development and implementation by public bodies is in line with principles of sustainable development and wellbeing by introducing a duty for public bodies to promote these principles and establishing a Commissioner for sustainable development and wellbeing.

The consultation runs from 14 December 2022 to 24 March 2023

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.**

Primary Teacher on secondment to the STEM Team within North Ayrshire Council. Promoting Learning for Sustainability across the authority through CLPL training sessions, using and promoting LfS resources and supporting schools with LfS projects such as gardening and biodiversity.

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

*No Response*

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).

Emma Brown

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.**

To ensure that there is consistent and coherent policy for all that encompasses and encourages community, education and business links.

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.

In Education there needs to be clear legislation so that educators know what is required and how to embed it in their practise. Links need to be formed with community and businesses so that support and pathways can be created to ensure that the principles of sustainable development and wellbeing are adhered to.

In North Ayrshire, the council is developing community links to LfS by funding and supporting schools with gardening projects. This has been hugely successful and the children, families and teachers have a much better understanding of sustainable education through this project.

The council is currently creating an activity STEM Trail for families and young children at Eglinton Park to promote wellbeing and sustainability. The STEM Team is also working with the Ayrshire Growth Deal to design and oversee a programme that promotes recycling and STEM activities at the beach park and create an Irvine Harbourside trail for the community.

Q3. Which of the following best expresses your view on whether 'sustainable development' should be defined in legislation?

Fully supportive

**Please explain the reasons for your response, including any views on what the definition should include.**

I believe that all schools are now aware of what Learning for Sustainability means and can look like e.g outdoor learning, global citizenship, sustainable education, so I think that using the terminology ' sustainable development' in the legislation is key to ensuring a consistent approach.

Q4. Which of the following best expresses your view on whether 'wellbeing' should be defined in legislation?

Fully supportive

**Please explain the reasons for your response, including any views on what the definition should include.**

I think that the concepts of wellbeing and sustainable development are intrinsically linked and this is highlighted for me in NAC's LfS gardening and biodiversity school projects.

Q5. Which of the following best expresses your view on whether there should be a Commissioner for sustainable development and wellbeing?

Fully supportive

Q5. Which of the following best expresses your view on whether there should be a Commissioner for sustainable development and wellbeing?

**Please explain the reasons for your response, including any views on what the key functions of the proposed Commissioner should be (see pages 19 to 20 of the consultation document), what model of governance could be adopted (see page 22 to 23), and whether the Commissioner could play a role in strengthening existing duties or legislation.**

It is essential that there should be someone in post to oversee the development of such a key priority to ensure that it remains a top priority for the Scottish government.

Q6. What, in your view, should the title of the proposed Commissioner be?

Please explain the reasons for your response.

Commissioner for Wellbeing and Sustainability.

Q7. Which of the following best expresses your view on whether there is a need for duties for public bodies to promote sustainable development and wellbeing in policy development and implementation?

Fully supportive

**Please explain the reasons for your response including views on any barriers to implementation of these duties and on how the effectiveness of implementation could be measured.**

In education, the children need to see the bigger picture, so that they can recognise that what they are learning and doing is making a difference locally, nationally and internationally. They need to understand that we are all agents of change, we do have a voice and that policy makers are listening and that we understand how this is translated into everyday life experiences such as recycling, energy use, food production etc.

## Financial Implications

Q8. 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 response, 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.**

Businesses- promoting sustainable products, labelling etc

In schools recycling, saving water and energy and food production have only had a positive financial impact. Schools are using less and creating less waste. For example in NAC the schools are using produce grown to supplement and replace bought in produce for their dinner menus and families and the local community are being offered excess produce ( reducing household food bills)

## Equalities

Q9. 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 response and if there are any ways you think the proposal could avoid negative impacts on particular people.

It will support the most vulnerable in our society and ensure that we are all accountable whether we like it or not!

## Sustainability

Q10. 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 response, 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 believe that by encouraging outdoor activities for children, families and the community this will help to promote sustainability and wellbeing. By develop people's understanding of how nurture can be supported through nature it enables us to connect with the natural environment on many different levels and care for our planet. Children need hope, solutions. One example has been the Earth shot prizes, which have enabled children to see that using the natural elements around us can create new inventions and provide solutions for many of the problems we face.

## 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)?

Education should be at the heart of this bill. Educating our future generations are key to ensuring that wellbeing and sustainable development can be achieved.