

Proposed Witchcraft Convictions (Pardons) (Scotland) Bill

Introduction

A proposal for a Bill to pardon all those convicted under the Witchcraft Act 1563.

The consultation runs from 23 June 2022 to 15 September 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

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).

Jennifer Dadigan

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? (Please note that this question is compulsory.)

Fully supportive

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposed Bill? (Please note that this question is compulsory.)

Please explain the reasons for your response.

If we were unable to save the lives of innocent people then, we at the very least should pardon their names now. This pardoning will be a step in the right direction for such unfathomable acts to repeat.

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 do not profess to know much about Scottish law, so I speak from a place of admitted ignorance but also from what feels like common sense. That being said, yes, I think legislation is an important for this Bill's aim; at the legislative level, laws can be put in place to help protect from the potential future accosting of innocent people or family of the accused victims. Laws, although not always obeyed by the people, when put in place, can be a deterrent and most importantly, crimes become punishable and people held accountable by the court of law. That which is noted as what is right and what is wrong in the eyes of legislation is a stance by those in positions of authority; at the very least, this is an honorable stance in leadership and a movement toward reparations in the name of those who died and for their descendants.

Financial Implications

Q3. 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?

Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your answer.

I'm not familiar with Scottish tax systems and how this could create or diminish taxes.

Equalities

Q4. 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 including the impact on people with particular protected characteristics

When any category of oppressed people are systematically protected by the law, we all benefit. People or groups of people may believe they are safe until someone or something decides that 'said group' is doing something wrong- and then 'said group' can become the new target; laws help protect our personal rights and keep us lawfully protected from the actions of others, typically stemming from differing belief systems.

Sustainability

Q5. 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?

The impact of the proposal could positively impact and enhance a sustainable economy, and create strong, healthy, and just society for future generations because people can feel more safe in practicing the sacred wisdom and teachings passed down from their ancestors; teachings and wisdom that honor nature and overall wellness of people and our environment . Teachings that keep people feeling connected & proud of their roots, traditions and customs. Keeping these ties to our ancestors helps to strengthen a community and an economy. These traditions can empower the people they belong to, offering them ways to create jobs in helping others with healing and wellness. These traditions, if kept sacred, protected and honored, can be the thing that helps families thrive for generations to come- this enhancing the economies they dwell in.

General

Q6. 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)?

These humans who were persecuted and murdered were often times, simply women accused by others who misunderstood them or were in fear or envy of them; they were also our healers, our wisdom keepers, our deep feelers, see'ers & helpers. These people were our ancestors and so much of what we desperately need to heal this world, died with them. Thankfully, many survived and their medicine lives on today. This medicine will be a part of what saves us all from ourselves and returns us to the vital connection to the wisdom of our earth and ancestors. We must do everything in our power to preserve, protect, honor and invite sacred wisdom into todays world. This proposed Bill is one way we can do so.