

Response ID ANON-7SNU-SR4S-S

Submitted to Covid recovery: public health, services and justice system reforms
Submitted on 2021-11-08 10:24:50

Chapter 1 - Introduction and policy background

Chapter 2 - Public health resilience

Question 1 Education: powers to make directions to close educational establishments in order to reduce the spread of infection within and to ensure the continuity of education during pandemics

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic H1 (Education: powers to make directions to close educational establishments, and to ensure continuity of education) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

Question 2 Power to make public health protection regulations

I think the provisions for Topic H2 should be extended beyond March 2022, but not made permanent

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic H2 (Power to make public health protection regulations) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

The emergency legislation from the UK and Scottish Governments in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, whilst necessary to ensure public safety and the effective provision of vital public services at the time, was widely criticised due to issues around lack of scrutiny, openness and accountability.

As it stands, we do not feel the current legislation can be made permanent without more assurances on maintaining national and local scrutiny of public services and legislative processes, which is crucial when regarding policing, safety and justice.

Question 3 Vaccinations and immunisations

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic H3 (Vaccinations and immunisations) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

Question 4 Virtual public meetings under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010

Not Answered

If you have any comments on the provisions for Topic H4 (Virtual public meetings under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010) please write them in the box below.:

Chapter 3 - Public services and justice system reform

Question 5 Alcohol licensing remote hearings

I think the provisions for Topic P1 should be extended beyond March 2022 and made permanent

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P1 (Alcohol licensing remote hearings) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

We are supportive of this change to the legislation as it is a more flexible approach. We advise however that members of the public without access to IT, WiFi and IT literacy skills must be equally considered and included at all times.

Question 6 Bankruptcy: debt level that enables creditors to pursue the bankruptcy of a debtor through the courts

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P2 (Bankruptcy: debt level that enables creditors to pursue the bankruptcy of a debtor through the courts) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

Question 7 Bankruptcy: electronic service of documents

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P3 (Bankruptcy: electronic service of documents) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

Question 8 Bankruptcy: moratoriums on diligence

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P4 (Bankruptcy: moratoriums on diligence) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

Question 9 Bankruptcy: virtual meetings of creditors

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P5 (Bankruptcy: virtual meetings of creditors) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

Question 10 Care services: giving of notices by the Care Inspectorate

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P6 (Care services: giving of notices by the Care Inspectorate) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

Question 11 Civic government licensing remote hearings

I think the provisions for Topic P7 should be extended beyond March 2022 and made permanent

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P7 (Civic government licensing remote hearings) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

We are supportive of this change to the legislation as it is a more flexible approach. We advise however that members of the public without access to IT, WiFi and IT literacy skills must be equally considered and included at all times.

Question 12 Courts: intimation, etc. of documents

I think the provisions for Topic P8 should be extended beyond March 2022 and made permanent

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P8 (Courts: intimation, etc. of documents) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

We are supportive of this change to the legislation as it is a more flexible approach. We advise however that members of the public without access to IT, WiFi and IT literacy skills must be equally considered and included at all times.

Question 13 Criminal justice: arrangements for the custody of persons detained at police stations

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P9 (Criminal justice: arrangements for the custody of persons detained at police stations) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

We are supportive of this change to the legislation as it is a more flexible approach that allows better use of police and custody staff resources and time. We would hope that prison custody officers receive the same training as those who specialise in custody, e.g. trauma informed practice.

Question 14 Freedom of Information: giving notice electronically

I think the provisions for Topic P10 should be extended beyond March 2022 and made permanent

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P10 (Freedom of Information: giving notice electronically) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

We are supportive of this change to the legislation as it is a more flexible approach. We advise however that members of the public without access to IT, WiFi and IT literacy skills must be equally considered and included at all times.

Question 15 Legal aid

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P11 (Legal aid) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

Question 16 Legal writings etc

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P12 (Legal writings etc.) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

Question 17 Mental health: named person nomination

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P13 (Mental health: named person nomination) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

Question 18 Parole Board: delegation

I think the provisions for Topic P14 should be extended beyond March 2022 and made permanent

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P14 (Parole Board: delegation) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

We are supportive of this change to the legislation as we know that victims and witnesses often prefer this option as they find it less traumatic. However, we would encourage full consultation with charities supporting victims and witnesses on this matter.

Question 19 Parole Board: live link

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P15 (Parole Board: live link) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

Question 20 Remote registration of deaths and still-births

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P16 (Remote registration of deaths and still-births) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

Question 21 Remote registration of live births

Not Answered

If you have any comments on the provisions for Topic P17 (Remote registration of live births) please write them in the box below.:

Question 22 Tenancies: protection against eviction (discretionary grounds of eviction); and pre-action requirements for eviction proceedings on ground of rent arrears

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic P18 (Tenancies: protection against eviction (discretionary grounds of eviction); and pre-action requirements for eviction proceedings on ground of rent arrears) or the proposal for permanence, please write them in the box below.:

Chapter 4 - Responding to the impact of Covid in the justice system

Question 23 Courts and tribunals: conduct of business by electronic means

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic J1 (Courts and tribunals: conduct of business by electronic means) or the proposal for extension beyond March 2022, please write them below.:

Question 24 Courts and tribunals: virtual attendance

I think the provisions for Topic J2 should be extended beyond March 2022 and made permanent

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic J2 (Courts and tribunals: virtual attendance) or the proposal for extension beyond March 2022, please write them below.:

We are supportive of this change to the legislation as it is a more flexible approach and will help with the pandemic induced court backlog. We advise however that charities supporting victims and witnesses should be fully consulted on this change.

Question 25 Criminal justice: early release of prisoners

I think the provisions for Topic J3 should be extended beyond March 2022 and made permanent

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic J3 (Criminal justice: early release of prisoners) or the proposal for extension beyond March 2022, please write them below.:

We would support this change to legislation due to the well documented difficult living conditions of prisoners under Covid-19 as well as Scotland's continued position as one of the highest prison populations in Western Europe (see link to stats below) which puts exceptional strain on the system.

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-prison-population-statistics-2019-20/>

In addition, we continue to support the Presumption Against Short Sentences and a shift to community based sentences based on the compelling evidence that people released from a custodial sentence of 12 months or less are reconvicted nearly twice as often as those sentenced to serve a Community Payback Order (CPO) (see link to stats below).

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/reconviction-rates-scotland-2017-18-offender-cohort/>

We are in agreement that victims groups are consulted.

Question 26 Criminal justice: expiry of undertaking

I think the provisions for Topic J4 should be extended beyond March 2022 and made permanent

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic J4 (Criminal justice: expiry of undertaking) or the proposal for extension beyond March 2022, please write them below.:

In the interest of public safety, we would support this legislation change.

Question 27 Criminal justice: fiscal fines

I think the provisions for Topic J5 should be extended beyond March 2022 and made permanent

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic J5 (Criminal justice: fiscal fines) or the proposal for extension beyond March 2022, please write them below.:

We are in support of this legislation change in order to reduce the court backlog and offer alternatives to custody.

Question 28 Criminal justice: national court for cases beginning with an appearance from custody

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic J6 (Criminal justice: national court for cases beginning with an appearance from custody) or the proposal for extension beyond March 2022, please write them below.:

Question 29 Criminal justice: time limits - relating to the time limit on summary-only cases at section 136 of the 1995 Act

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic J7(i) (relating to the time limit on summary-only cases at section 136 of the 1995 Act) or the proposal for extension beyond March 2022, please write them below.:

Question 30 Criminal justice: time limits - remand time limits at section 65(4) and section 147(1)

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic J7(ii) (remand time limits at section 65(4) and section 147(1)) or the proposal for extension beyond March 2022, please write them below.:

Question 31 Criminal justice: time limits - extending time limits relating to the maximum time between first appearance on petition and the first diet/preliminary hearing and commencement of the trial at section 65(1)

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic J7(iii) (extending time limits relating to the maximum time between first appearance on petition and the first diet/preliminary hearing and commencement of the trial at section 65(1)) or the proposal for extension beyond March 2022, please write them below.:

Question 32 Criminal Justice: time limits - removing time limits on the length of individual adjournments for inquiries

Not Answered

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic J7(iv) (removing time limits on the length of individual adjournments for inquiries) or the proposal for extension beyond March 2022, please write them below:

Question 33 Proceeds of Crime

I think the provisions for Topic J8 should be extended beyond March 2022 and made permanent

If you have any comments on either the provisions for Topic J8 (Proceeds of crime) or the proposal for extension beyond March 2022, please write them below.:

In the interests of public safety and fairness we support this change to the legislation.

Chapter 5 - Final questions

Question 34 General Covid recovery question

Not Answered

If you have selected "Yes" please write your comments below. It would be helpful if you could refer to which of the three themes are of particular interest to you. :

Impact assessments

Question 35 Business and regulatory impact assessment

Not Answered

If you have selected "Yes" please write your comments below. It would be helpful if you could refer to topics of particular interest to you with their topic codes.:

Question 36 Child rights and wellbeing impact assessment

Not Answered

If you have selected "Yes" please write your comments below. It would be helpful if you could refer to topics of particular interest to you with their topic codes.:

Question 37 Equality impact assessment

Not Answered

If you have selected "Yes" please write your comments below. It would be helpful if you could refer to topics of particular interest to you with their topic codes.:

Question 38 Socio-economic equality impact assessment (the Fairer Scotland Duty)

Not Answered

If you have selected "Yes" please write your comments below. It would be helpful if you could refer to topics of particular interest to you with their topic codes.:

Question 39 Human rights

Not Answered

If you have selected "Yes" please write your comments below. It would be helpful if you could refer to topics of particular interest to you with their topic codes.:

Question 40 Data protection impact assessment

Not Answered

If you have selected "Yes" please write your comments below. It would be helpful if you could refer to topics of particular interest to you with their topic codes.:

Question 41 Island communities impact assessment

Not Answered

If you have selected "Yes" please write your comments below. It would be helpful if you could refer to topics of particular interest to you with their topic codes.:

Question 42 Strategic environmental assessment

Not Answered

If you have selected "Yes" please write your comments below. It would be helpful if you could refer to topics of particular interest to you with their topic codes.:

Question 43 Financial implications

Not Answered

If you have selected "Yes" please write your comments below. It would be helpful if you could refer to topics of particular interest to you with their topic codes.:

About you

What is your name?

Name:

Dawn Exley

What is your email address?

Email:

dawn.exley@scsn.org.uk

Are you responding as an individual or an organisation?

Organisation

What is your organisation?

Organisation:

Scottish Community Safety Network

The Scottish Government would like your permission to publish your consultation response. Please indicate your publishing preference:

Publish response only (without name)

We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

Yes

I confirm that I have read the privacy policy and consent to the data I provide being used as set out in the policy.

I consent

Evaluation

Please help us improve our consultations by answering the questions below. (Responses to the evaluation will not be published.)

Matrix 1 - How satisfied were you with this consultation?:

Slightly dissatisfied

Please enter comments here.:

Too long. Would have been easier if split up into smaller consultations, given the complex subject matter.

Matrix 1 - How would you rate your satisfaction with using this platform (Citizen Space) to respond to this consultation?:

Very satisfied

Please enter comments here.: