

Proposed Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill

Introduction

A proposal for a Bill to ensure that young people have the opportunity to experience residential outdoor education.

The consultation runs from 29 April 2022 to 22 July 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.

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)

Optional: You may wish to explain briefly what the organisation does, its experience and expertise in the subject-matter of the consultation, and how the view expressed in the response was arrived at (e.g. whether it is the view of particular office-holders or has been approved by the membership as a whole).

Lochranza Centre Cic has been proud to cater for the needs of students of all ages over its 40 year period of operation. Principally we offer courses in geology/geography/biology and environmental science. However, we also offer courses in outdoor activities and support a local community and an effort to support Arran and its campaign to become a UNESCO Global Geopark ,championing Arran ,as a unique place in the world to learn about the physical landscape.

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).

Lochranza Centre cic

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.)

Partially supportive

Please explain the reasons for your response.

My concern would be that students also need to learn a little from their experience outdoors. This learning should be based on key skills of observation and recording. They should learn that the landscape is dynamic and constantly changing by itself and also through the influence of mankind. So I would maintain that students of all ages need to be allowed/enticed outdoors for their own benefit and to gain a greater understanding of the planet and its workings which is for mankind's benefit.

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 think legislation is required, because the pressures of time and money often prevent many people, particularly young people from experiencing nature and wild /remote areas. Such legislation would also help these remote,rural areas by securing the jobs of young people and families that champion the outdoors and care about our unique wilderness areas. It should also help with the mental health and wellbeing of our young population. So one bill,could help with two or more problems we face i.e rural depopulation and low pay and urban, lack of opportunity and poor mental health and wellbeing.

Q3. The proposed Bill will cover residential outdoor education provision for local authority and grant-aided schools only. Which of the following best expresses your view that independent schools or any other education establishments should not be covered by this obligation.

Partially opposed

Please give reasons for your response.

I think if the bill is aimed at getting all young people out of doors then this should be across the board. However, I feel that Independent schools already recognise the need to do this for the reasons you mention in the bill. However, just in case the message gets lost or obscured by time/profit, the aim should be to protect the rights of the youngsters concerned and make sure they get the opportunity. Thus I think it should be mandatory

Q4. The intention is that the obligation to ensure that residential outdoor education is provided would fall on those who are responsible for arranging the provision, e.g. education authorities and managers of grant-aided schools. Which of the following best expresses your view of this proposal?

Fully supportive

Please explain the reasons for your response.

This bill has to be strong enough that its delivery has to be ring fenced into day to day accounting. It has to be correctly budgeted for and then monitored against performance and value added. This is the role of Councils and local education authorities, possibly linked with LOTC and HSE

Funding

Q5. Which of the following best expresses your view of how residential outdoor education experiences should be funded?

In full by local authorities (for local authority-run schools)

Please explain the reasons for your response. (If you consider Scottish Government funding should be provided to local authorities, please set out the mechanism for such funding, for example through block grant, ring fenced funding etc.)

If the success of this bill is to help improve society and importantly its young people. Then .if successful we will see an improvement in the nations, health, wellbeing and happiness of our population over time and a reduction in the costs incurred by our health service. This bill is aimed at changing lives and giving people new perspectives. It should be part of the curriculum and as such paid for the the state. if the cost is too prohibitive then other avenues can be explored.

Financial Implications

Q6. 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 answer, 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.

If this bill is based on economics only and does not recognise the general benefit to society then their could be a significant increase in costs in the extra workload in managing the schemes and in the extra infrastructure possibly needed to deliver them. That said this could be seen as investment in rural economies and businesses, i.e decentralization of funds. This may in turn help a circular economy with money flowing back to the government in taxes. We also may see savings in mental health and social care or at least a reduction in the rise of these costs

Standard/ Quality of provision

Q7. Which of the following best expresses your view on the proposal for a quality framework to ensure the quality of the education provision of outdoor centres?

Partially supportive

Please give reasons for your response, including whether this should be done by HMIE using a quality framework as part of their inspection of schools and the extent to which, if any, it should be statutory.

I think that the requirement for a quality framework is necessary. That said, outdoor centres already have to meet various criteria on the quality that they deliver and market forces and positive feedback from customers is a great incentive to make sure they offer the best value for money

Q8. Which of the following best expresses your view that the age range of 12 – 16 is appropriate for participation in the residential outdoor education experience?

Neutral (neither support nor oppose)

Please give reasons for your response, including whether you think other age ranges would be more appropriate.

It might be argued that 12-16 is already too late to introduce the benefits of the outdoors to youngsters. That said, this age grouping can also be an important time of life and give the young person a new perspective and drive. Post 16 experiences can also be important in helping drive questioning about the environment. In short, I am biased and would say that a young person should have the privilege of many experiences from age 6-16 and beyond. But if you had to choose one age group, perhaps this is the important time for someone who might get one chance!

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

Surely this bill is helping to reinforced inclusivity and equality. The outdoors is a great leveller!

Q10. How might equity of provision for all be ensured, regardless of socio-economic status? Please give reasons for your response.

If the state grants a financial award to cover such an experience to each young person as part of their education package, similar in respect to what authorities do for examinations, and this also covers board/lodging/transport then I can not see a problem. Put it under a heading learning for life. First Aid, should also be included in this

Sustainability

Q11. 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?

This new bill could help people better understand and respect their natural environment. It could also help a circular economy, by taking funds from Central government and using these in remote areas. Revenues generated in these areas would to some percentage be recovered in taxes back to Central government. People in rural communities need paying visitors/guests to survive. The Urban population is in need of the

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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?

quiet /wilderness areas where the baggage of life is less pronounced and they can re-charge and gain new perspective and appreciation. This proposal is a win /win situation

General

Q12. 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)?

No. However, I am passionate about the outdoors and getting people of any age out to benefit from them. Scotland is very privileged to have some amazing scenery and it is a crime that people are not encouraged to get out and experience it more. I would also like to pay tribute to Liz Smith and the Scottish Government for helping support the Scottish outdoor industry through the grants made which has secured the jobs and livelihoods of individuals and families in this industry. This bill is a further opportunity for the Outdoor industry to make Scotlands people happier /healthier and more appreciative of the Country they live in. Give us a chance. Question? It can not be coincidental that the Scandanavian Countries and Iceland are home to some of the happiest and most contented people on our planet. They have superb natural assets and so do we,lets use them please!