

## Response ID ANON-MU7C-5V87-P

Submitted to Period Products (Free Provision) Bill - Call for Views  
Submitted on 2021-12-13 12:02:25

### Introduction

1 How would you like your response to be published? (Please note: this question requires a response)

I would like my response to be published

2 Are you content that any of your suggestions which have been published to the Committee or the Assembly may inspire the text of an amendment?

Yes

3 What is your name? (Please note: this question requires a response)

Name:  
James Millen

4 What is your email address?

Email:  
[REDACTED]

5 Please indicate if you are providing a submission:

On behalf of an organisation or business

If on behalf of an organisation or business, please state its name::  
Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA)

And please tell us briefly how the organisation or business relates to the subject matter of the Bill::  
CCEA is an arm's length body that advises the NI Department of Education on matters relating to the operation of all aspects of the NI curriculum in schools and colleges.

### Clause 1: Provision of free period products: Department scheme

6 Do you agree with the proposed duty described in Clause 1?

Do you agree/disagree with proposed duty in Clause 1:  
Strongly Agree

7 Do you think the duty takes account of all necessary factors e.g. dignity, accessibility, choice, differently able people, travel arrangements, consultation and advertisement of arrangements for provision of period products?

Do you agree/disagree with proposed duty in Clause 1:  
Strongly Agree

8 Would you add, detract from or otherwise amend any element of Clause 1?

Yes

If yes, what amendment would you make? :

Consideration may be given to publishing all information relating to the free provision of period products in a variety of formats to ensure that it is accessible for all. For example, Braille, easy read, pictorial/symbols, videos using Makaton.

Products should be available in places such as adult day care facilities, and all types of educational settings, including special schools and Education Other Than At School (EOTAS).

Consideration should be given to the availability of products for people in rural areas, particularly those with mobility difficulties or who are dependent on public transport. Use of mobile libraries and community nurses should be considered.

If these more specific requirements are not in the legislation or regulations, then there is no guarantee that full access will be available.

### Clause 2: Provision of free period products: public service bodies

9 Do you agree with the proposed duty described in Clause 2?

Do you agree/disagree with proposed duty in Clause 2:

Strongly Agree

10 Do you agree that the clause takes into account all necessary aspects of preparation to roll out the scheme, such as identification of relevant public service bodies; provision of free period products at each of their sites; provision only for use while on those premises; the ability for Departments to make regulations about these arrangements on a phased basis; and the ability for the Assembly to use affirmative procedure to give a relatively high level of scrutiny to these regulations?

Do you agree/disagree that the clause takes into account all necessary aspects of preparation:

Strongly Agree

11 Would you add, detract from or otherwise amend any element of Clause 2?

Yes

If yes, what amendment would you make? :

In relation to 'Public bodies', consideration should be given to including those which are publicly funded for education (e.g. EOTAS). Adult day care facilities and places of supported employment should also be included.

When considering 'sufficient' quantities, cognisance should be given to the fact that people with learning difficulties may require more products. Some young people and adults may destroy products through lack of understanding and so need a much larger quantity.

Clause 3: Arrangements under sections 1 and 2: particular requirements

12 Do you agree that the principles set out in clause 3 – easy access, dignity, choice and publicised arrangements - are relevant and proportionate principles to underpin the implementation of this scheme?

Do you agree/disagree that principles set out in Clause 3 are relevant and proportionate?:

Strongly Agree

13 Would you add, detract from or otherwise amend any element of Clause 3?

Yes

If yes, what amendment would you make? :

The Department could consider taking account of environmental factors and provision of reusable products (e.g., menstrual cup, period-proof underwear) as part of the provision.

Clause 4: Guidance

14 Do you agree that this clause will help co-ordinate implementation between Departments and Public Service Bodies?

Do you agree/disagree this clause will help co-ordinate implementation?:

Strongly Agree

15 Would you add, detract from or otherwise amend any element of Clause 4?

No

If yes, what amendment would you make? :

Clause 5: Statement on Arrangements

16 Do you agree that Clause 5 would provide transparency as to how specified public service bodies are providing period products in the best interests of appropriate product users?

Do you agree/disagree Clause 5 would provide transparency:

Strongly Agree

17 Would you add, detract from or otherwise amend any element of Clause 5?

If yes, what amendment would you make?:

Consider extending the list of product users to include adults with learning disabilities in all their settings.

Consider including information and guidance on the use of environmentally friendly reusable products.

## Clause 6: Duty to Publish Information

18 Do you agree that this clause will make available timely, useful, information that will benefit persons obtaining free period products?

Do you agree/disagree with proposed duty in Clause 1:  
Neither Agree or Disagree

19 Would you add, detract from or otherwise amend any element of Clause 6?

Yes

If yes, what amendment would you make? :

It may be useful to include a statement about how the information will be disseminated to the likely users (e.g., posters in public places).

## Clause 7: Key Definitions

20 Do you agree with

Do you agree/disagree with proposed duty in Clause 1:  
Strongly Agree

21 Do you agree that this Clause provides a comprehensive list of key definitions of terminology used throughout this Act?

Do you agree/disagree that Clause 7 provides a comprehensive list of key definitions of terminology:  
Strongly Agree

22 Would you add, detract from or otherwise amend any element of Clause 7?

No

If yes, what amendment would you make? :

## Clause 8: Interpretation

23 Do you agree that this clause signposts the reader to accessible and standardised explanations of the legal terms used throughout the language of this Act?

Do you agree/disagree that this clause signposts the reader to accessible and standardised explanations:  
Disagree

24 Would you add, detract from or otherwise amend any element of Clause 8?

Yes

If yes, what amendment would you make? :

Consideration could be given to the addition of definitions for adult day care and supported employment, as well as including terminology for EOTAS.

## Clause 9: Commencement

25 Do you agree that there should be two years to allow everyone to prepare for this new law?

Do you agree/disagree there should be two years to allow everyone to prepare:  
Neither Agree or Disagree

## Clause 10: Short Title

26 Do you agree that when it becomes an Act, this should be called the "Period Products (Free Provision) Act (Northern Ireland) 2021"?

Yes

If no, what amendment would you propose and why?: