

# Proposed Electricians (Scotland) Bill

## Introduction

A proposal for a bill to provide for the protection of title and registration of electricians. The consultation runs from 19 August to 10 November 2020. 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 attached to this consultation which explains how my personal data will be used

## 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:**

Home owner with 50 years DIY experience

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 name or the name of your organisation. (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).

Stewart McCardle

## Aim and approach

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposed Bill?

Fully supportive

**Please explain the reasons for your response.**

My main concern was that the legislation, if approved, would restrict competent (on my personal view often more competent than qualified electricians) from carrying out simple electrical work within domestic settings

Q2. What do you think would be the main practical advantages of the proposed Bill?

Prevention of unskilled, inexperienced and fraudulent persons from claiming a level of skill to which they are not entitled and may use for self focussed gain

Q3. What do you think would be the main practical disadvantages of the proposed Bill?

At the moment there are no obvious disadvantages as the bill stands, however should an amendment or further restrictions on competent persons carrying out work within their own domestic setting be added, or plan to be added at a future date, then this could be an area for objection.

Q4. Which of the following best expresses your view of the establishment of a single register for electricians?

Fully supportive

**Please give any views or comments on a single register and how it might be set up**

Preferably a national register that was self funded by the electrical industry and any person qualified and affiliated whose name or organisation appears on the register - and that costs associated would be seen as a benefit to these members and therefore NOT passed on in invoices work. The prestige should cover any cost.

Q5. Which of the following best expresses your view of establishing protection of title for electricians?

Fully supportive

**Please give any views or comments either on the principle or practical operation of protection of title:**

Provided the qualified person has passed the appropriate test and can be held accountable for quality if work, then that person should be allowed to use the relevant title of 'electrician'

## Financial Implications

Q6. Taking account of both costs and potential savings, what financial impact would you expect the proposed Bill to have on:

	Significant increase in cost	Some increase in cost	Broadly cost-neutral	Some reduction in cost	Significant reduction in cost	Unsure
<b>(a) Government and the public sector</b>			X			
<b>(b) Businesses</b>			X			
<b>(c) Individuals</b>			X			

**Please explain the reasons for your response**

Unless there is a willingness for costs to be kept contained without extra burden on those involved in delivering the legislation, adhering to the register and protecting customers from 'passing on' these professional costs then my submission is that a cost neutral outcome is essential. Savings and increased profit should come from good stewardship and customer confidence.

Q7. Are there ways in which the Bill could achieve its aim more cost-effectively (e.g. by reducing costs or increasing savings)?

There are politicians, professional bodies and skilled individuals involved therefore it cannot be out with the bounds of possibility, providing there is a genuine willingness, for costs to be contained.

## Equalities

Q8. 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?

Neutral (neither positive nor negative)

**Please explain the reasons for your response.**

If there are existing inequalities then these should have been identified and being tackled already - so there is no expectation of more or less inequality

Q9. In what ways could any negative impact of the Bill on equality be minimised or avoided?

Nil cost to customer, legal requirement to participate, robust and meaningful redress should that be required, published and easily understandable standards.

## Sustainability

Q10. Do you consider that the proposed Bill can be delivered sustainably, i.e. without having likely future disproportionate economic, social and/or environmental impacts?

Yes

**Please explain the reasons for your response.**  
No point in progressing bill unless these criteria are met.

## General

Q11. Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the proposal?

Thanks for the opportunity to respond