

# 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.

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

Commercial organisation (company, business)

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).

Aberdeenshire Electrical Services Ltd

## 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.**

Unbelievable that legislation and registration for Electricians is still being discussed! All individual Electricians who are qualified and wish to work in Scotland must be registered with one single body e.g. SELECT (I do not mean the company they work for but each person within that company) and regular advertisements put out in the media so the public know where to go. It should also be that prior to registration they sit through an on-line in-depth exam.

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

Allowing the public to know that are getting a qualified person, reducing the risk of poor workmanship which could lead to death.

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

No disadvantages whatsoever although the workload of the governing body would greatly increase but the yearly fees from each Electrician would cover that cost.

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**

As I stated in Q3 I think one body, one register is the best way forward. It would stop confusion for all concerned and would greatly help the public.

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:**

Protection of title would help secure reputation and safety and help stop those who are not qualified from carrying out work that would be unsafe. This is not rocket science but common sense and would emphasise that poor standards are unacceptable.

## 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**

Obviously if the Electrician is an independent then he/she has some increase in cost by paying the yearly registration fees but their work could increase as the competition would be reduced due to the cowboys being left out in the cold.

It would be up to each business/company as to whether they wish to pay for each Electrician's fee or whether they get the Electricians in their employ to pay for it themselves.

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

It swings in roundabouts. The public may have to pay higher labour rates but they would be getting their work done to a higher standard and with a guarantee and therefore no need for call backs or paying another company to redo the work so they would not be left out on a limb or pocket. The public should also be encouraged to report bad workmanship and if an Electrician was getting bad reports then further training etc would need to be carried out or they are struck off the register.

## 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.**

As a woman, completing this consultation, who works for an electrical company carrying out admin work I cannot see what impact positive or negative this Bill would have i.e., I don't think it would make more women want to be become an Electrician although if it did then at least having a register would inform people that every Electrician (man or woman) is of the same standard.

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

As there is already a scheme in operation e.g. CEC with the SJIB then inequality would or should be alleviated.

## 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.**

The only negative or disproportionate impact this Bill would have is that those who are not registered would hopefully not get electrical work. Besides as green energy becomes more & more prolific then registration should be more important rather than less.

## General

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

Most of the public do not realise that this trade is unregistered - which is a disgrace that it is not! If a person puts themselves through training to become qualified (and especially if they have paid for it) and more importantly if poor work is carried out which can lead to death then why oh why is that trade not registered?!?

After Storm Frank in Dec 2015 Ballater was inundated with work to rectify the damage and it was locally known that "Electricians" were coming from all over the UK to carry out work. A few months later my husband was called to several homes to redo unsafe work carried out by these so called "Electricians" e.g. switches had been installed next to shower heads; damp sockets reused and were now burnt out; wiring put under carpets rather than trunked or laid under floorboards etc. So there is definitely a need for this Bill to happen, and SOON!