

How to respond to the

Learning Disabilities, Autism and Neurodivergence Bill consultation



CLICK HERE – to go to
the online consultation

Or scan this QR
code to begin
the consultation



Step 1 – Contents page

At the bottom of the [consultation page](#) is a box to respond:

Please tell us your views

[Begin consultation >](#)

Click 'Begin consultation' to start.

This takes you to a contents page with a list of all the sections within the consultation.

There are 23 separate sections in this list.



'About you' is the only section you must complete. All others are optional.

Only answer questions which are relevant to you.

Contents

Some sections of this consultation may be more relevant to particular individuals than others. You're encouraged to answer the questions you'd like to respond to, but you don't have to respond to all of them.

The links in the table below correspond to the sections within the consultation. By clicking a link it will take you to the related page and questions. Once you have completed the relevant questions on the page you can click 'Continue' to return here and choose the next page to view.

You will also see the option to 'Save and come back later' at the bottom of each page. This feature allows you to return to the consultation at a later date without losing the answers you've already entered as part of your response. You do still need to submit your response before the consultation closing date or the response will be lost.

There are some questions you have to answer on the 'About you' page. Once these have been completed you may submit your response.

Page	Response
About you (Required)	0 of 16 questions answered
Reach and definitions: who should the Bill include?	0 of 3 questions answered
Statutory Strategies for Neurodivergence and Learning Disabilities	0 of 3 questions answered
Mandatory Training in the Public Sector	0 of 3 questions answered
Inclusive Communications	0 of 3 questions answered
Data	0 of 3 questions answered

Step 2 – ‘About you’

The ‘About You’ section aims to find out information about the person answering.

We want to ensure we have a wide range of responses from different people across Scotland.

We would like to know:

- z your name – this does not need be your full name.
- z a phone number in case we need to clarify an answer.
- z your postcode so we know we are reaching a broad geographical spread.



Do not provide a phone number if you do not want to be contacted.

What is your name?

What is your phone number?

In case we need to contact you to clarify any of your answers. Leave this blank if you would prefer us not to contact you.

What is your postcode?

Please provide your postcode so we can ensure we have a good representation across Scotland. Organisations should add an office postcode where possible.

postcode (Required)

What is your email address? (if you do not have an email address please enter na for not applicable in this box)

If you would like to be contacted again in future about this consultation please enter your email address here. You will also need to give permission to be contacted in the question below.

Your email address will never be published.

email address (Required)

Step 2 – ‘About you’

There is a short explanation for why we are asking these ‘About You’ questions under each question.

We do not want only one type of person to answer. Where certain groups appear to be underrepresented we will use the time during the consultation to reach out to those groups.

We will reach out to those groups via charities and support agencies to help and encourage them to respond.



We want to collect as much information as possible so we know we have a mix of responses from different groups.

Which ethnic group best describes you?

We know that neurodivergence exists in different ethnic communities but traditional support for people with learning disabilities and neurodivergent people might not be able to help in these communities due to language barriers and other reasons. We want to understand the demand for support so we can better shape services and charities to deliver this.

- White Scottish
- Other Scottish
- White British
- Other British
- Irish
- Gypsy / Traveller
- Polish
- Other white ethnic group
- Mixed or multiple ethnic group
- Pakistani, Pakistani Scottish or Pakistani British
- Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British
- Bangladeshi, Bangladeshi Scottish or Bangladeshi British
- Chinese, Chinese Scottish or Chinese British
- Other Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British
- African, African Scottish or African British
- Caribbean, Caribbean Scottish or Caribbean British
- Black, Black Scottish or Black British
- Other Caribbean or Black
- Arab, Arab Scottish or Arab British
- Other ethnic group
- Prefer not to say
- Not Applicable – responding as an organisation

Step 2 – ‘About you’

The Scottish Government requires that you answer the last three questions.

It is important to let them know if you want your answer published or not.

You must give explicit consent if you are happy for the Scottish Government to contact you in the future.

The Privacy Policy on this page will tell you how your personal information will be processed.



Your personal information is protected under the General Data Protection Regulation.

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

(Required)

- Publish response with name
- Publish response only (without name)
- Do not publish response

Information for organisations only:

The option '*Publish response only (without name)*' refers only to your name, not your organisation's name. If this option is selected, the organisation name will still be published.

If you choose the option '*Do not publish response*', your organisation name may still be listed as having responded to the consultation in, for example, the analysis report.

Do you consent to Scottish Government contacting you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

(Required)

- Yes
- No

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

[▶ Privacy Policy](#)

(Required)

- I consent

Step 3 - Questions

When you click into a section you will see the proposals for that section.

Each section has 3 standardised questions, asking you if you:

1. agree with the proposals in the section;
2. or disagree with the proposals in the section;
3. have anything else you want to say on that subject.



Some sections such as 'Complex Care – Coming Home' ask slightly different questions.

Reach and definitions: who should the Bill include?

Who Should the Learning Disabilities, Autism and Neurodivergence (LDAN) Bill include?

A Bill has to set out who it will apply to and in what circumstances. This means our Bill has to say which groups of people it will apply to.

This is important because it sets out who can benefit from the Bill's provisions, and who can rely upon it to uphold their rights or seek redress for their rights being breached.

If the people included are not properly defined, the legislation won't be able to fully benefit the people it is intended for.

What can the LDAN Bill do?

There are 3 different potential approaches for this Bill.

Proposal 1: 'People who are Neurodiverse'/'Neurodiverse People'

There are differing schools of thought in academic literature about what 'neurodiversity', and 'neurodiverse' means.

We understand that it is, however, commonly accepted that 'neurodiversity' encompasses all of humanity, and does not mean 'neurological disability' or 'otherness'. 'Neurodiversity' describes a population, not individuals. A person cannot, therefore, be individually 'neurodiverse'.

If we use the term neurodiverse in the Bill then it may be too broad. It will cover the whole population including people who are not neurodivergent - 'neurotypical' people - so we don't think it is a good description to use in the Bill.

Proposal 2: 'People who are Neurodivergent'/'Neurodivergent People'

We understand that it is commonly accepted that 'neurodivergent' means having a mind that functions in different ways to the minds of the majority of people in society.

'Neurodivergent' and 'neurodivergence' are very broad terms that would allow us to capture a wide range of people within the Bill, including people with learning disabilities, people with learning difficulties such as people with dyslexia, dyspraxia and dyscalculia, autistic people and people with Down's Syndrome, Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD), and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). However, the term can also apply to people with acquired brain injuries.

Step 4 – Save and return

You can save your answers and return at any time:

Save and come back later...

When you click the 'Continue' box it takes you back to the contents list and you can pick another subject:

Continue >



Apart from the 'About you' section, all other sections and answers are completely optional and can be left blank if preferred.

Which of these proposals do you agree with (if any), please tell us why?

Which of these proposals do you not agree with (if any), please tell us why?

Is there anything else that we should consider in relation to this topic?