

Good morning

I am writing on behalf of the General Pharmaceutical Council in relation to the Section 30 Order related to the Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill. Please find our comments below.

Assisted dying

- We do not have a view on whether assisted dying should be introduced in any of the countries in which we regulate; we consider this to be a matter for legislatures.
- We do not currently publish guidance for pharmacy professionals or the owners of pharmacy premises related to assisted dying, as it is not permitted by law in Great Britain.
- If there was a change in legislation to legalise assisted dying, our role as the pharmacy regulator would be to consider how our standards and guidance could support pharmacy professionals and pharmacy owners in relation to this change in the law. This would include considering how to define and uphold legitimate conscientious objection in professional terms. We published guidance on religion, personal values and beliefs in June 2017, which we would look to update if there were any legal changes in relation to assisted dying.
- Our approach to engaging both with discussions about the draft legislation and, in due course, with the implementation of any changes to the law, will be framed by and consistent with our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy.

Please do let me know if I can be of any further assistance

Many Thanks
Siobhan

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