(copied from email)

Hi Miles

I hope this format is acceptable as a reply to the consultation.

I am replying as an individual.

I have experience of caring for dying patients since 1982 as a student nurse and from 1987 as a registered nurse in the area of Medical and Care of the Elderly Nursing.

Consultation questions

Note: All answers to the questions in this section may be published (unless your response is “not for publication”).

Aim and approach

1. Do you agree that terminally ill adults and children and young people with life shortening conditions residing in Scotland should have a right to palliative care?

☐ xStrongly agree

☐ Partially agree

☐ Neutral (neither support nor oppose)

☐ Partially disagree

☐ Fully disagree

☐ Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your response, including what you think a right to palliative care should deliver.

A right to palliative care should offer compassionate care recognising the dignity and value of all society.
It should be sufficiently resourced

Follow Scottish Palliative care guidelines
Offer equitable access to all in the various settings: hospital, home, hospice
Offer palliative care to those with a cancer diagnosis and all other life limiting illnesses eg: dementia, heart failure
Provide holistic care: physical, emotional, spiritual to those with a terminal illness and their family and friends
Education to the wider population about the services available
Support for those non health carers who have involvement with palliative care eg volunteers, ministers

2. **What is your view on the World Health Organisation definition of palliative care, that is the basis of statutory guidance in England on palliative care provision, being the basis for a legal right to palliative care?**

Please explain the reasons for your response, and whether you think a different definition of palliative care should be considered for health and social care legislation, human rights legislation, and other forthcoming legislation that is relevant to how people may experience end of life.

The definition needs to focus on compassion: walking with those who suffer and include a holistic approach including spiritual input.

3. **Any new law can have an impact on different individuals in society, for example as a result of their age, disability, gender re-assignment, marriage and civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, caring responsibility, or location (urban or rural and island community settings).**

What is your view on the different impacts that a right to palliative care would have and the different considerations there would be in implementing that right for different groups and people in Scotland living with terminal illness(es)?

☐x Strongly agree

☐ Partially agree

☐ Neutral (neither support nor oppose)

☐ Partially disagree

☐ Fully disagree

☐ Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your answer, including the impact this proposal could have on particular people if it became law, and if there are any ways you think the proposal could avoid negative impacts on particular people.

The right to palliative care would have a positive impact on all groups of people. Equity of access is vital to support those where location is a challenge eg island communities. New initiatives could help with this.

4. **What is your view on how a right to palliative care should be implemented? For example, you may wish to consider which bodies would be responsible for delivering palliative care and what their duties may be, and what data would need to be collected to assess how the right is being implemented.**

Please explain the reasons for your response.

Bodies I think should be involved are as follows: those responsible for palliative care guidelines and best practice, palliative care specialists, research fellows, NHS, social care, hospices, BMA, RCN, nurses, doctors, chaplains, professionals involved in palliative care

5. **Are there any other comments you wish to make on the proposed Bill, for example, on its financial implications, impact on equalities and sustainability?**

Please explain the reasons for your response.

I would like to give a personal example of how palliative care worked for my mother in law. Each individual is different. A multidisciplinary team is necessary. For my mother in law to stay at home (her wish) District nurses, carers, GP, family, friends, and a group of people from our church provided 24 hour care. Everyone's efforts were greatly appreciated. I support the proposal for everyone to have a right to palliative care.