



Autistic experience of COVID-19 legislation and guidelines

Introduction

This survey is intended to provide a 'snapshot' of our experiences, as autistic people living here in Scotland, of the policing of the COVID-19 emergency legislation.

We will be looking at common themes and threads and identifying examples of both poor or worst but also good and best, practice.

We are also seeking to identify some of the key issues and concerns for the autistic community around the ongoing implementation of the law and the guidelines over the next few months.

Please note we can't respond to individual queries or complaints. If you would like information about how to raise any issues with the police directly, please go to [Police Scotland](#)

We will be using the information we gather from this survey, anonymised, to inform bodies such as the Independent Advisory Group to the Scottish Police Authority. Some of the later questions ask for some information about you, including the general area where you live; these are only to look at patterns and you will not be identified individually.

Many thanks for taking part in this survey.

NB This survey is being hosted by an independent research company* on behalf of and in support of SWAN for which we thank them. The host research company will not retain, analyse or use in any way any of the information collected through this survey.

1. Your understanding of the legislation and guidelines

1. Do you feel you understand the COVID-19 emergency legislation and the accompanying guidelines?

- Yes
- No
- Somewhat/in parts

2. Please describe in no more than 150 words what you feel would have helped you to have a better understanding of the COVID-19 emergency legislation and the guidelines?

2. Your direct experience of policing of legislation/guidelines

3. Have you, or any of your family, e.g. a teenage child, had any direct experience/s of the policing in Scotland of the emergency COVID-19 legislation? By direct experience we mean that you or your child has been approached/stopped by the police.

- Yes
- No

4. Please give us a brief description (no more than 200 words) of what happened:What happened?

Where did it take place?

5. Did you understand why you or your child were being approached/stopped by the police?

- Yes
- No
- Somewhat/to some extent
- Not sure

6. Please describe in no more than 150 words why you think you or your child were stopped/approached by the police:

7. Did you feel you or your child were treated fairly?

- Yes
- No
- Not Sure

Please describe in no more than 150 words what made you feel you were being treated fairly?

Please describe in no more than 150 words what made you feel you were not being treated fairly?

8. Did you feel you or your child were being discriminated against?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Please describe in not more than 150 words how you felt you were being discriminated against, e.g, because of age? gender? ethnicity? ability/disability?

9. Did you feel your personal circumstances were considered and taken into account, for example that you might have a 'hidden' disability or health condition, or that your child might be autistic?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Please describe in no more than 150 words what about the experience led you to feel the police understood your or your child's personal circumstances - or and responded appropriately.

Please describe in no more than 150 words what about the experience led you to feel the police did not understand your or your child's personal circumstances and did not respond appropriately.

10. Please describe in no more than 150 words what would have helped to assure you the police were able to consider your personal circumstances or if you felt your circumstances were being considered, then please describe in what way did the police act that demonstrated this?

3. Your overall views on the policing of legislation/guidelines

11. What are your main questions or concerns regarding the policing of the COVID-19 emergency legislation and implementation of the guidelines going forward over the next few months? Do you have any ideas or suggestions for the police in terms of addressing your question or concern? Please stick to up to 150 words for each question or concern.

1. My question or concern

2. My question or concern

3. My question or concern

Is there anything you would like the police to do in response to your concerns as outlined and if so, please use a maximum of 150 words to describe what would that be?

12. Do you believe that the human rights and needs of autistic people are recognised and understood within Scottish society generally? Generally i.e. pre-COVID-19?

- Yes
- No
- Somewhat

Please explain your answer (in no more than 150 words)

Within the current COVID-19 context?

- Yes
- No
- Somewhat

Please explain your answer (in no more than 150 words)

13. In no more than 250 words, what do you think needs to be done to improve recognition of the rights and needs of autistic people within Scottish Society?

4. About you or your child

14. Are you or your child autistic, either formally diagnosed or self-identified?

Yes

No

15. Please include the following information about yourself (you are able/willing to share with us).

Age

Ethnicity

Gender

Disability

Other health conditions

16. Please tell us which local authority are you live in.

17. Which of these best describes where you live: Tick box, select one only

City or large town centre

Other part of a city or large town

Housing estate

Smaller town

Village

Remote rural area

Other (please state)

Many thanks for completing the survey.