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Proposed Protection of Workers (Retail and Age-Restricted Sales etc.) (Scotland) Bill

Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

an individual

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".)

Member of the public

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

-

Please choose one of the following:

I would like this response to be anonymous (the response may be published, but no name)

Q1. Which of the following expresses your view of creating a new offence of assault against a worker in the retail sector?

Fully supportive

Please explain the reasons for your response

I personally have experienced numerous incidents of violence whilst working in stores

Q2. Which of the following would you support as a way to respond to assaults on workers upholding statutory age-restrictions?

A new statutory offence

Please explain the reasons for your response

there should be a zero tolerance approach to crime

for too long the snp have been soft on crime and soft on the causes of crime

this allows petty criminals to shoplift and behave aggressively in stores knowing the underfunded police will show no interest, which in turn makes the criminals think they can get away with other anti social behaviour in other areas

Q3. Which of the following would you support as a way to respond to abuse, harassment, threatening or obstruction of workers upholding statutory age-restrictions?

A new statutory offence (for all these types of behaviour)

Please explain the reasons for your response

see before

Q4. Do you think that there are other steps which could be taken (either instead of, or in addition to, legislation) to achieve the aims of the proposal?

No

Please explain the reasons for your response.

no, there must be punitive legislation that will remove the notion that retail crime is not real crime

for too long the snp have shown no interest in promoting an agenda of respect for the law; they encourage the police to ignore with their lenient sentencing regimes and starvation of funds

law and order needs to be a much greater priority for this government; their time would be better spent picking real fights with real criminals, rather than creating imaginary ones with the uk government to deflect from their incompetence in managing crime and pretty much every other area of scottish society

Q5. Taking account of both costs and potential savings, what financial impact would you expect the proposed Bill to have on:

Q5.1. (a) Government and the public sector - Broadly cost neutral

Q5.2. (b) Businesses - Significant reduction in cost

Q5.3. (c) Individuals - Significant reduction in cost

Please explain the reasons for your responses.

more people in prison for longer will mean less costs for law abiding citizens

they could pay for this by printing fewer lies about the benefits of independence

also, we wouldn't need teams of social workers roaming the streets if criminals are locked up in a fashion that reduced recidivism, rather than soft sentencing or not even arresting or convicting

Q6. Are there ways in which the Bill could achieve its aim more cost-effectively (e.g. by reducing costs or increasing savings)?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your responses.

by making it clear that breaking the law will result in tough punishments it should reduce the number of offences

Q7. What overall impact is the proposed Bill likely to have on equality, taking account of the following protected groups (under the Equality Act 2010): race, disability, sex, gender re-assignment, age, religion and belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity?

Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your responses.

who cares

a bit less focus on PC claptrap like the above and a bit more respect for the rule of law, starting in school, where again the SNP have proved themselves capable only of making a mess of things

Q8. In what ways could any negative impact of the proposed Bill on equality be minimised or avoided?

don't know or care

the SNP are happy for any amount of collateral damage in support of independence

if toughening things up in favour of safer working in retail stores has a bit of collateral damage amongst those whose 'human rights' will be violated by

Q9. Do you consider that the proposed Bill can be delivered sustainably i.e. without having likely future disproportionate economic, social and/or environmental impacts?

Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your responses.

in a fair society we should accept that the costs of delivering justice will be higher - law abiding citizens shouldn't worry. if law breakers lose their home or their benefits, then that's their problem but if they don't respect the rules of society they

Q10. Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the proposal, for example, other trigger points for violence and abuse, and other workers who should be covered?

anyone

its pathetic to see how much protection the public sector and heavily unionised industries get compared to the private sector and small business owners

its time this two track society where anyone not in the public sector is left on their own to fend for themselves with regards to being victims of criminality is ended

Q11. Which of the following describes your retail-sector experience (please tick all that apply)?

Working in premises selling alcohol for consumption on the premises (e.g. pub)	Yes
Working in premises selling alcohol for consumption off the premises (e.g. shop)	Yes
Working in premises selling other age-restricted products (e.g. tobacco, knives etc.)	Yes
Working in other retail premises	Yes
None of the above	No

Q12. Which of the following describes your experience of violence or verbal abuse in the retail sector (please tick all that apply)?

I have been the victim of physical violence	Yes
I have been the victim of verbal abuse	Yes
I have witnessed colleagues being subjected to physical violence	Yes
I have witnessed colleagues being subjected to verbal abuse	Yes
None of the above	No

Q13. Please give details of any personal experience that you would wish to share. (Please avoid naming any other person or giving information that would allow another person to be identified)

numerous assaults whilst working in retail stores, with very few successful prosecutions but as soon as you defend yourself, the police are all over you

there is no respect for the victim, but woe betide anyone who dares try to defend themselves

the police go after the easy targets - they will put so much more effort into prosecuting the shopkeeper for swinging a baseball bat than going after the people who caused that situation in the first place

if there were more robust responses from police, judiciary and government instead of the mealy mouthed PC guff we have to put up with now, life would be a lot safer

