

79544144

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

### Page 2: About you

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".)

Professional with experience in a relevant subject

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

*No Response*

Please choose one of the following:

I am content for this response to be attributed to me or my organisation

Please insert your name or the name of your organisation. If you choose the first option above, this should be the name as you wish it to be published. If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Danny Roe

### Page 7: Your views on the proposal - Aim and approach

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

Partially opposed

**Please explain the reasons for your response**

I don't feel that there's a need for an extra law because the current criminal common law already covers these offences. Why create more bureaucracy when the current law is more than adequate? If the

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

Fiscal/Police took these matter seriously there would be no need to propose a specific law just for retail staff.

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

Neither

**Please explain the reasons for your response**

It's a completely unnecessary measure. I've ID'd 1000's of people in my time working in the trade and, on occasion, there's a few idiots who might get upset but never have I ever been worried that I may be assaulted...and I've been working in the trade for over 20 years.

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?

Neither

**Please explain the reasons for your response**

See answer to question 2

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?

Yes

**Please explain the reasons for your response.**

Get the authorities to take these offences more seriously under the current legislation.

## Page 11: Financial impact

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

	Significant increase in cost	Some increase in cost	Broadly cost neutral	Some reduction in cost	Significant reduction in cost	Unsure
(a) Government and the public sector		X				
(b) Businesses			X			

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

(c) Individuals			X			
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**Please explain the reasons for your responses.**

The red tape would cause the Gov/Public Sector cost increases because they'll have to carry out the prep work and apply the new law should they become active. For everyone else there would be no cost increase because...why would there be? It would just be yet another pointless law that isn't enforced by the Police.

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 response.**

Drop it from being proposed.

## Page 13: Equalities

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?

Neutral (neither positive nor negative)

**Please explain the reasons for your response.**

The two are unrelated and so will have no impact at all.

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

While I don't believe there's a negative, the only way would be to stop wasting your time on this bill. There's much bigger things out there that require attention than wasting time on a bill that's already covered by existing legislation.

## Page 15: Sustainability

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?

No

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?

**Please explain the reasons for your response.**

Pointless bill that will only cost the public sector money trying to implement it.

## Page 16: General

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?

The main time where there a risk of violence is not when checking ID, but when asking someone to leave the premises. While many do leave without incident there are those who take being asked to leave as a reason to become aggressive towards staff. I've lost count of the amount of times that I've called the Police to get assistance to remove someone because they've refused to go (a current criminal offence) but these calls are deemed a low priority by the Police. I appreciate that there's only so many Police Officers on patrol and they're stretched to the limit, but this means that it's increasing the risk that staff face because there's no guarantee that the Police will attend and the idiots who're causing the aggravation know that.

If you'd focussed your bill on this subject rather than worrying about ID'ing people I might have been a little more supportive of your bill.

## Page 17: Personal Experience - Optional questions

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)

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

I have been the victim of verbal abuse

I have witnessed colleagues being subjected to physical violence

I have witnessed colleagues being subjected to verbal abuse

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)

Verbal abuse such as treats of assault, stabbing, death threats. Usually from people who've been kicked out or refused entry. All harmless because if they were going to do it they'd have done it and not stood in

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)

the street shouting it and usually whilst walking away.

I've also been assaulted on a few occasions whilst on the job that have been reported to the Police.

Nothing serious and no real physical harm done.

As I've mentioned before: the offences above are already covered by existing legislation...it just needs to be enforced by the authorities. If current legislation isn't enforced why do you think that a new piece will be?