

80065561

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".)

Politician (MSP/MP/peer/MEP/Councillor)

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

David Stewart MSP

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?

Fully supportive

Please explain the reasons for your response

Violence and abuse against shop workers who are just doing their jobs is unacceptable. A new law would send a strong message and hopefully prevent it by making sure abusers know that their actions will have significant consequences and also hopefully make sure it is always reported.

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

Either

Please explain the reasons for your response

Either would help to raise awareness to both abusers and shop workers.

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?

Either

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.

I think it is important that bar and pub staff are also covered by the legislation - they are hospitality staff not retail but are also at high risk of abuse at work.

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 | | |
| (c) Individuals | | | X | | | |

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

No

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?

Slightly positive

Please explain the reasons for your response.

There are often more female shop workers, so it could help prevent increased violence against women?

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

No Response

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?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your response.

With abuse at work sometimes leading to stress and time off work, or higher turnover of staff, it might have a beneficial impact on businesses, saving money and hassle, thereby improving sustainability.

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?

Hospitality staff like bar and pub workers are also at risk and hopefully could be covered by this Bill.

Page 17: Personal Experience - Optional questions

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

None of the above

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

None of the above

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)

No Response