

78451491 - Neil Findlay

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

Please select the category which best describes your organisation
-

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.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

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
no worker wherever they works should be subject to violence at work

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
Workers selling ages restricted goods can come under additional pressure from various sources and this can lead to violence just because they won't sell age restricted goods. The issue of age restriction is the provocation.

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
-

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.
i think weak legislates or no legislation and attempts via education etc will not work. A firm legal basis is required.

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 - Broadly cost neutral

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

Please explain the reasons for your responses.

The enforcement will need resources but these will be offset by the savings from police, NHS etc, having to deal with incidents.

Businesses will be more attractive and less confrontational so may increase business

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

Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your responses.

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?

Positive

Please explain the reasons for your responses.

treats everyone within the age range for these goods the same and rightly discriminates on age grounds to protect young and vulnerable people

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

-

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 responses.

protecting workers from violence can only have a positive impact on society and teaches people that such acts are not acceptable and will be punished

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?

-

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

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

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)

I worked in a pub as a student and had abuse from people who were intoxicated and demanding more alcohol. It was difficult to deal with and I was lucky not to experience violence.