

# 77662743

## 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".)

Professional with experience in a relevant subject

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

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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**

There can be no time that any worker should be subjected to assault of any kind. Workers are entitled to go about their business without having to fear that they me assaulted. Workers are entitled to be treated with dignity and respect.

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**

The law should cover all aspects of a retail worker acting within the role of their job. Assault is assault and all incidents should be treated the same.

All public service workers or workers who have to deal with the public should come under the same scrutiny whether you are a retail worker, nurse policeman, social worker etc.

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**

As per my previous comments

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 support legislation that would make it custodial sentence for anyone found guilty of assault against any worker who is assaulted during the course of their job.

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** - Some increase in cost

**Q5.2. (b) Businesses** - Some increase in cost

**Q5.3. (c) Individuals** - Significant increase in cost

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

There would be an increase in cost to Government and Business in ensuring that the bill was adhered to and any incident properly investigated.

The cost to individuals could be a fine or custodial sentence which would create wider costs, i.e. loss of job cost to other family friends etc.

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.**

Probably unrealistic but make the aggressor pay the costs

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 responses.**

I would hope that those who fall under the equality act are already protected.

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

Through consultation with other stakeholders who fall under the equality act.

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.**

Would have to be monitored going forward to get the evidence as to whether it can be delivered sustainably.

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 bill should cover all workers who work with the public.*

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

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

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)

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