

79201541 - Saleem Sadiq

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

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Saleem Sadiq

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

AS you have mentioned and I have always said in the past, those that uphold the law must also be protected by the same law, we face both verbal and physical abuse especially since we forced the challenge 25 policy.

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

As per my previous answer.

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

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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.

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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 - Significant reduction in cost

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

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

Please explain the reasons for your responses.

Once individuals are made aware that it will be an offence to aggravate, threaten or otherwise a member of staff it could lead to a criminal offence, the general public will be less inclined to behave in such a manner thus saving time and money for both the police and courts and of course us the shop workers.

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.

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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.

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

I personally don't believe there are any negatives in the proposal.

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.

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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?

I think violence will decline, as in the case of racial abuse now. I remember growing up in a culture when it was deemed acceptable to throw racial insults at staff members until it was criminalised, it's very rare now.

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)	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)

Verbal and physical abuse very common, a couple of weeks ago, a young customer was asked for ID, he ended up smashing 4 bottles of wine up, threw one back at the checkout staff, luckily no one was injured, on the way out he decided to kick the glass on the front door. Often when they know they will be challenged they try and make for the door and end up stealing the product.

