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

Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?
on behalf of an organisation

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".)
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Please select the category which best describes your organisation
<i>Commercial organisation (company, business)</i>

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
<b>Please explain the reasons for your response</b>
Retail staff in their place of work should feel safe.
Threatening behaviour towards retail staff is all too common.

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**

None of the other options are sufficient.

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 aggravation for threatening or abusive behaviour or harassment; and a new statutory offence of obstructing a worker upholding an age-restriction.

**Please explain the reasons for your response**

Adequately covers the issue.

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.**

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** - Unsure

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

**Q5.3. (c) Individuals** - Unsure

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

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.**

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

Proper public communication by the government stating the aims of the bill.

Point of Sale materiel for retailers promoting the new legislation and the reasons behind it.

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.**

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?

*Include a 'premises banning order' element for perpetrators / guilty parties.*

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)