

80282233

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".)

Member of the public

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

No Response

Please choose one of the following:

I would like this response to be anonymous (the response may be published, but no name)

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

Abuse towards retail workers is a major issue, and I believe they should receive better protection against it.

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

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

Please explain the reasons for your response

This is the most easily understood option. This would raise awareness about the new law, encouraging victims to report it and hopefully discouraging perpetrators.

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

Again, the clarity provided by an entirely new statutory offence is helpful, and this is particularly important that the law adequately protects those working to uphold it.

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.

Whilst other actions taken in conjunction with these proposals may be helpful, these proposals are an essential component of any broader strategy to tackle retail abuse.

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			

Please explain the reasons for your responses.

There may be cost implications of increased awareness and reporting, though this is a sign that the system is working as it should. Businesses may see financial benefits due to lower staff turnover and fewer absences.

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?

Positive

Please explain the reasons for your response.

Any legislation aimed at tackling abuse will have a positive impact on protected groups. The abuse experienced by retail workers can have a particular impact on staff within protected groups - the abuse may, for example, be of a racist or sexist nature, and these proposals would help tackle this abuse.

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

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?

No Response

Page 17: Personal Experience - Optional questions

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)

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