

77664969

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 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

No person should have the right to threaten or abuse any other person under any circumstances, verbally, violence, e mail, facebook or whatever.

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

It should be a statutory offence for any abuse or threat or intimidation by any method.

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

It should be automatic for all abuse etc. By all means do it for this group to get it done and avoid wider issues but then come back and do it for everyone. Verbal, actual, internet, mail etc, anyway at all should be an offence.

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.

The victim comes first. By all means have some in conjunction / pre-emptive programme where the offence is at a "warning" level but if the abuser crosses the line then it needs to be an offence.

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 - Some increase in cost

Please explain the reasons for your responses.

Nothing for nothing and you will need more Police, more Courts, more Social / Probation Workers, which will all cost until benefits of reduced crime come through. I know we have repeat offenders. Perhaps we wouldnt have offenders if there was a certainty of being caught and punished.

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

No

Please explain the reasons for your responses.

In the long term there should be savings in reduced crime and so reduced reporting etc etc but with all other cut backs these are creating issues which lead in part to crime.

Any attempt to reduce costs will be a failure. I am prepared to pay for less crime. being efficient and cost effective does not require to mean reducing costs. It can mean a better return for your money.

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.

This should cut across all of these as abuse is abuse. No exceptions.

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

Well to be honest lets do the right thing and take it from there. The victim comes first.

You could adequately source and teach social obligation classes in schools.

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?

No

Please explain the reasons for your responses.

To do properly there must be a cost. That cost could be positive (ie not just more prisons but more Social services).

I repeat certainty of arrest and conviction and punishment will reduce abuse.

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?

Every person in the UK should have the right to live without intimidation of any sort whatsoever and if some other person crosses that line then that should be an offence.

There is a line everywhere (on the pavement, on internet etc) in front of me that other people should not cross

If someone does not want to commit an offence then they should not commit an offence. You do not see many 6 stone weaklings attack a couple of 16 stone oil workers.

We are not talking about people stealing food to eat to live etc we are talking greed of every sort.

If the Courts think an exception should be made then fine.

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	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	No
I have been the victim of verbal abuse	Yes
I have witnessed colleagues being subjected to physical violence	No
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)

I worked in a Bank. My experience tended to be verbal with customers but more general abuse than threats than specific, on phone, letters. There was also the polite society abuse of suing me personally and ruining my career etc. There were more threats of possible issues eg at home etc and a few phone calls to the house all hinting rather than anything specific. I did have one close call when one customer was arrested with loaded shotgun who had intended to come to the office and hold me hostage - not one to think about - but thats probably a crime rather than what you are looking at.

