

79655381

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".)

Politician (MSP/MP/peer/MEP/Councillor)

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

No Response

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Alex Rowley MSP

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

No worker should be expected to face violence and or abuse when they go to their place of work and do their job. A new law will make that point loud and clear and I hope act as a deterrent for those who think this is ok.

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

If anyone does behave in a way that is violent and abusive to a person in the workplace there must be the power to make sure that this crime will be punished and a new statutory offence would make that clear and I hope as a result will make people think twice before behaving in such a way towards workers.

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 certainly raise awareness of the unacceptability of such behaviour towards workers.

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.

Employers also have a duty to do all they can to ensure the safety of workers, but there must be a clear message of zero tolerance of threatening behaviour, intimidation and violence towards workers doing their jobs.

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 should be a duty on public authorities to raise awareness and run campaigns making clear those who commit such crimes will be punished and from an employer perspective they also should be

Q5. Taking account of both costs and potential savings, what financial impact would you expect the proposed Bill to have on:

promoting such legislation and warning against such behaviour and through time they will reap the rewards

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 response.

Stopping attacks on workers is the most cost effective way for our economy to grow.

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.

No one should be attacked and the fact is that many frontline workers in shops are on low incomes and this bill would help protect many of the groups that are identified above and work on the frontline serving the public

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

Please explain the reasons for your response.

It cannot be good for business if staff are worried and frightened in their workplace so their would be big advantages for the well being of the workers and this in turn would be good for the workplace/business

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?

I think we can learn from this legislation and build on it where that is needed in the future, but you have to start somewhere and I know many in this sector agree.

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