

Proposed Football (Strict Liability) (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; if you choose the first option, please provide your name or the name of your organisation as you wish it to be published.

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

Please provide details of a way in which we can contact you if there are queries regarding your response. Email is preferred but you can also provide a postal address or phone number. We will not publish these details.

[REDACTED]

Page 7: Your views on the proposal

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposal to introduce strict liability for football clubs in Scotland?

Fully opposed

Please explain the reasons for your response

While the theory is nice, it is ridiculous to think that this can be policed. Has the club to have a representative at every gate to ask each supporter if they intend to say or do x y or z at today's game. Clubs can only do so much to get the message out that sectarian or anti social behaviour is not acceptable, they cannot force people to do or not do something. Sectarianism in Scotland is deep rooted in the mindset of a significant minority's of people and it will only be tackled through education from an early age. Trying to shift this into clubs is just a last gasp attempt to fix a problem from an administration that has run out of ideas.

Q2. Could the aims of this proposal be better delivered in another way (without a Bill in the Scottish Parliament)?

Yes (if so, please explain below)

Please explain the reasons for your response

Education from a young age against sectarianism etc. Although it is almost impossible to tell kids that everyone is equal and then turn around and say but he/she is going to a different school than you because he/she is a different religion. Very contradictory

Q3. What do you think would be the main advantages, if any, of holding clubs responsible for the behaviour of their supporters?

None, it will not solve anything

Q4. What do you think would be the main disadvantages, if any, of holding clubs responsible for the behaviour of their supporters?

Many fans simply won't care as at the end of the day if their club is fined, it doesn't come out of their pocket and doesn't really affect them. If they know their club will be punished yet still do it regardless then it's safe to assume they don't care if the club is punished

Page 11: Behaviours and sanctions

Q5. If there is to be a system of strict liability, which of the following behaviours do you think should be covered (choose all that apply)--

The lighting of fireworks or any other incendiary objects

The use of laser pointers or similar electronic devices

Please explain the reasons for your response

Again, for many of these such as disorder near the stadium, how can the club be responsible if a bunch of neds decide to have a square go on the next street? That is for the police to sort and the judicial system to deal with, not a club.

Q6. If there is to be a system of strict liability, which of the following sanctions do you think should be available (choose all that apply)--

Please explain the reasons for your response

None, punishes the perpetrators of and crime or anti social behaviour and deal with them via laws that are already in place.

Page 13: Financial implications

Q7. 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 costneutral	Some reduction in cost	Significant reduction in cost	Unsure
(a) Football clubs		X				
(b) Football supporters and other individuals			X			
(c) Scottish Government and public sector bodies (such as Police Scotland)		X				

Please explain the reasons for your response.

The clubs may be fined or whatever so could lose money their. The police may have to have a bigger presence at games to police all these.

Page 14: Equalities

Q8. What overall impact is the proposed Bill likely to have on equality, taking account of the following protected characteristics (under the Equality Act 2010): age, disability, gender re-assignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion and belief, sex, sexual orientation?

Neutral (neither positive nor negative)

Please explain the reasons for your response

Why would this bill have any impact on equality? What is the current inequality that this seeks to improve?

Q9. In what ways could any negative impact of the proposed Bill on any of these protected characteristics be minimised or avoided?

Scrap the bill

Page 16: Sustainability of the proposal

Q10. 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

Page 17: General

Q11. Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the proposal to introduce strict liability for football clubs in Scotland?

On a whole, violence etc in Scottish football is not a huge problem, it flares up from time to time and is hyped up by the media especially if it involves either Celtic or Rangers or both. With so many other problems effecting millions of ordinary Scots it is somewhat depressing that this is the focus.