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Alyn Smith MSP
Convener
Criminal Justice Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
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9 July 2026

Dear Convener,

Football Banning Orders - Consultation Analysis Report

I am pleased to share the analysis report of the responses received during the consultation of Football Banning Orders (FBO) legislation, the report was published today:

<https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781807752668>.

During the parliamentary passage of the Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles (Scotland) Act 2022, a Ministerial commitment was made to consider, at a later date, whether offences committed under that Act, specifically the offence of possession of pyrotechnics in Part 5 of the Act, should be extended to attract an FBO.

Following that commitment, stakeholder discussions took place and an FBO Working Group was formed in 2024 which included police and representatives from the football authorities. The Working Group recommended that the FBO legislation should be updated to make it more flexible, allowing it to be used more consistently for football-related disorder.

In May 2025, a Programme for Government commitment was made to carry out a full public consultation to gather views on potential changes to the legislation. The consultation - designed in partnership with external stakeholders (football authorities, Police Scotland and Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service) - opened on 1 December 2025 and ran for 12 weeks. The consultation received 903 responses from individuals and organisations which included 383 campaign responses. The report today is the independent analysis of the responses.

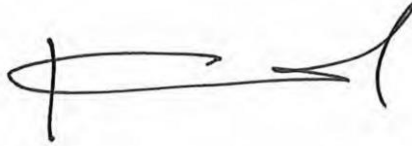
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Following the consultation and the on-going issues being seen at football matches in Scotland, the Committee will want to be aware that I intend to introduce legislation in the Scottish Parliament which will include targeted and specific measures to strengthen FBOs to cover behaviour such as the use of pyrotechnics, pitch invasions and the throwing of missiles.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kirsten Oswald', with a stylized flourish at the end.

KIRSTEN OSWALD

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