

25 FEB 2005



# FOOTBALL SAFETY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (SCOTLAND)

Ref : JAM/bmc/Police Bill Team, Edinburgh

22nd February 2005

Ian Ferguson  
Police Bill Team  
Police Division 1  
St Andrew's House  
Regent Road  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3DG

Dear Sir

## **Supporting Police, Protecting Communities Proposals for Legislation**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above, in particular the proposal on Football Banning Orders, and I respond as follows.

### Question 15

I totally agree that football banning orders are an appropriate response to the problem of football-related violence and disorder, in particular, the part which bans hooligans from certain public houses or city/town centres, where much of the disorder takes place.

### Question 16

I agree that courts should be able to impose banning orders on conviction or on summary application to a Sheriff by the Chief Constable.

### Question 17

I agree that the courts should be able to make a banning order if they are satisfied that it would help reduce football related disorder, specifically the stirring up of hatred against others. This would normally be after a person has been arrested and convicted of a racially or bigoted aggravated Breach of the Peace.

Cont./...

Question 18


I agree with the proposed length of a banning order and the proposed penalty for breaching of a banning order.

Question 19

I agree the banning orders should apply to the games as specified.

In my opinion this legislation is essential if clubs are to continue the fight against hooligans, racist and sectarian bigots. For too long clubs have been handing out bans which are almost impossible to monitor.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Morgan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

**John Morgan**  
**Chairman**  
**Football Safety Officers Association (Scotland)**