I would like to present our views on the proposed new licensing scheme (Question 12) and the implications this new scheme might have for permanent residents of sites (Question 13).

We feel that no consideration has been given to residents who have a signed agreement with the site owner. In our case my husband and I thought long and hard before embarking on living in a Residential Park Home Site as we were not envisaging making another move in our lifetime. Our discussions with the Site Owner satisfied us that we would have long term security and safety within a well maintained and managed site.

If the new licensing scheme goes ahead we feel that we would be in a very worrying situation as we would be put in a position of “wait and see” if the Site is going to be granted a license every 3 years. Where are we to live if the site is not granted a licence? It seems a detrimental move for residents rather than an enhancing of the rules and potentially could leave us with the financial burden of not being able to sell our home or having to move elsewhere, surely there has to be a reasonable way of the Scottish Government to deal with this matter.

It seems to us that because of a few bad site owners the many good site owners are being penalised with the cost of licensing which will subsequently be passed on to the site residents.

We understand that there has to be rules and regulations in place to safeguard residents but feel obliged to point out that in passing the proposed recommendations this would cause severe stress and worry about the long term future of residency on our Site. The present system in place and the agreement we have with the owner of our Site works very well and removes our future worries.

Janis and Thomas Stoddart (Individual)
20 February 2014