

Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Bill: Introductory Questions



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Thank you for responding to the Local Government and Regeneration Committee's Call for Evidence on the Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Bill. All submissions will be examined and considered as part of the Committee's scrutiny of the Bill.

Please be aware that questions marked with an asterisk (*) require an answer before you can submit the form.

Follow the Local Government and Regeneration Committee's Twitter feed - all Committee tweets on this Bill will have the hashtag #aw&lbill.

*1. Please supply your name and contact details:

Name:	<input type="text" value="Ashley O'Donnell"/>
Organisation:	<input type="text"/>
Address 1:	<input type="text"/>
Address 2:	<input type="text"/>
City/Town:	<input type="text"/>
Postcode:	<input type="text"/>
Country:	<input type="text"/>
Email address (if no email leave blank):	<input type="text"/>
Phone Number:	<input type="text"/>

FOR OFFICE USE
ONLY
SUBMISSION ID
NUMBER

115

*** 2. Please confirm that you have read and understood the Scottish Parliaments [“Policy on the treatment of written evidence by subject and mandatory committees”](#):**

Yes

*** 3 Please confirm whether you are content for your name to be published with your submission:**

Yes

No

*** 4. Which of the three categories below best describes your interest in the Bill (please tick only one)?**

Personal

Professional

Commercial

*** 5. Do you wish your email to be added to the Committee’s distribution list for updates on progress of the Bill:**

Yes

No

*** 6. Invitations to give oral evidence to the Committee on the Bill will be based on the submissions received. If you wish your submission to be included amongst those considered for possible invitation to give oral evidence, please indicate here.**

Yes

No

*** 7. You may answer questions on the entire Bill, or on any part of the Bill. Please indicate which parts of the Bill you are responding to? (You may select as many options that apply).**

All of the Bill

Equalities, climate change and other Scottish Government objectives

Air Weapons

General licensing issues

Alcohol licensing

Civic licensing – taxi/private hire car licensing

Civic licensing – scrap metal dealers

Civic licensing – theatre licensing

Civic licensing – sexual entertainment venues

Name/Organisation:

6. Civic Licensing – Sexual Entertainment Venues

You may respond to all questions or only those you have a specific interest in. (Text boxes have no word limit, they will increase in size accordingly).

50. What are the consequences of operating the new licensing regime using the definitions set out at section 68 of the Bill?

- 'sexual entertainment venue'
- 'audience'
- 'financial gain'
- 'organiser'
- 'premises'
- 'sexual entertainment', and
- 'display of nudity'

The venues are for adult entertainment not necessarily 'sexual entertainment venue'. One also cannot assume there will be 'displays of nudity' in common areas. Many groups of customers go for stag nights for entertainment not necessarily lap dancing.

51. The Bill specifies that a venue hosting sexual entertainment on three occasions or less within a 12 month period would not be treated as a sexual entertainment venue: does this have any unintended consequences?

Adult entertainment venues should be licensed.

52. Local licensing authorities will be able to set the number of sexual entertainment venues in their area to below the existing level, or zero: are there any advantages or disadvantages to this approach?

Local licensing authorities should not have the authority to set number of venues. One it will cause discrepancies city to city and two local licensing authorities do not have knowledge of such establishments.

53. The Bill relies mainly on the existing licensing regime for sex shops as set out in

section 44 and Schedule 2 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (application, notification, objections and representations, revocation of licences etc., enforcement and appeals): is this mechanism adequate for the licensing of sexual entertainment venues - if not, please explain why?

54. Are there any barriers to licensing authorities operating the new licensing regime?

These venues cause no harm to anyone. Freedom of choice.

55. Civic Licensing

Do you have any other comments to make on the civic licensing aspects of the Bill?

I completely disagree with the intention to close lap dancing venues and putting through this bill. I work in the hospitality industry and many friends do also and I can say at times I feel more like a slave than my friends who work in lap dancing clubs. Staff in many other professions e.g. cleaners, nurses and others on minimum wage should be the people you are worried about. If this continues pubs will soon close and only virgins will be allowed to get married. Perhaps education on lap dancing and these venues would suit better than assumptions and prejudice.