

# 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:

ACC Wayne Mawson

Organisation:

Police Scotland

Address 1:

Randolphfield Police Office

Address 2:

City/Town:

Postcode:

Country:

Email address (if no email  
leave blank):

Phone Number:

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ONLY  
SUBMISSION ID  
NUMBER

135

**\* 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.**

X 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

X Air Weapons

X General licensing issues

X Alcohol licensing

X Civic licensing – taxi/private hire car licensing

X Civic licensing – scrap metal dealers

Civic licensing – theatre licensing

X Civic licensing – sexual entertainment venues

Police Scotland

Name/Organisation:

#### 4. Taxi and Private Hire Car Licensing

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).

##### **35. What benefits should the licensing of taxis and private hire cars deliver for customers?**

The Licensing of taxis and private hire cars should ensure that customers have a level of comfort around the suitability of the drivers and condition of vehicles used in this industry.

The licensing regime ensures that legitimate business thrives and provides opportunity to prevent organised crime groups from gaining a foothold in this industry.

##### **36. In what ways do customers, providers of taxi/private hire car services and local authorities benefit from the two-tier licensing regime for taxis and private hire cars?**

No View

##### **37. The Government states that a radical overhaul of the current two-tier licensing regime would “clearly require a very high level of resource and would cause significant disruption for the trade, local authorities, the police and ultimately the travelling public”. What are your views on this and would the potential costs and disruptions outweigh any potential benefits of a unified system?**

From a police perspective the same scrutiny and application of legislation is applied in respect of both taxi types.

**38. Do the changes made by sections 60 (overprovision of private hire car licences) and 61 (testing of private hire car drivers) of the Bill strike the right balance in terms of introducing greater consistency while maintaining justifiable differences?**

No view

**39. Do you have any views on the section 62 provisions bringing vehicles contracted for exclusive use for 24 or more hours within the licensing regime for taxis and private hire cars, and should any exemptions be included in the Bill?**

No view.

