

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="Anonymous"/>
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"/>

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*** 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:

Anonymous

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'

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?

My view is that if something is to be regulated it not be on occasion.

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?

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?

55. Civic Licensing

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

I am the major shareholder of one of the largest specialist recruitment companies in the UK. There is economical consequence of not having lap dancing venues in Glasgow to which I will explain. Entertaining clients, whether that be taking them to casinos, football, horse racing, boxing or lap dancing clubs is an integral part of business. Visiting Lap Dancing clubs is a popular choice for many business and is considered to be harmless fun. I have a choice to take clients to clubs in any locations where I have an office, but always favour Glasgow as it is my home town. By not having Lap Dancing clubs in Glasgow I just simply take my business to another UK city that has such venues. Glasgow losses out on hotel stays, money spend in restaurants etc. There has also been many occasions when high net worth clients of mine have spent large sums of money in with clothing retailers such as ██████████ Glasgow the next day after visiting lap dancing pubs in Glasgow.

Being in the recruitment business I am by nature a talkative individual and talk to other businessmen and can say for sure, my viewpoint is shared by many other businessmen.

All major cities in Europe and indeed the world have lap dancing clubs. What signal would we be sending to the international business community if we banned lap dancing clubs.

There is another observation I have made. I hear reports that lap dancing clubs are linked with the exploitation of woman. I have never anything that is further away from the truth than this myth. Have anyone who is involved in this process every visited a lap dancing club. If they did, they would see that it is the girls who have complete control over the men. Not only that, if one was to talk to any one of these girls they would find people who not only have complete freedom of choice but can make large amounts of money for themselves.