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: [ ]

Organisation: 

Address 1: 

Address 2: 

City/Town: 

Postcode: 

Country: 

Email address (if no email leave blank): 

Phone Number: 

Anonymous
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
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'

Considering that currently and for the past many years venues such as these have been places of entertainment I do not understand why it is now sexual. There are no sex acts performed in any way in any of these venues. The reclassification is ridiculous. I have been an entertainment manager for 10 years now I am to be classed as a sex manager? Do you not yourself find that absurd?

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?

If you can do these entertainment shows 3 times a year and it is not sexual entertainment the what changes the 4th 5th or 1000th time the entertainment show is performed?
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?

The licensing authorities should have nothing to do with what goes on in these venues. The do not tell night clubs what dj to let play and bars what bands to put on. Yes I breach of licensing policy happens in regards to the venue then by all means take control but about the entertainment provided in the venue?
55. Civic Licensing

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

I have been a manager in this industry for the past 10 years. I met my partner in this industry and we have been together for 7 years. We have a 14 month old daughter who relies on this industry to keep a roof over her head and food in her mouth. This is an industry that has not breached any laws. Is accepted in the whole of Europe and the rest of the world it would. Provides thousands of jobs in the country and to give a zero tolerance policy in place is socially and economically unjust.