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: [Anonymous]
Organisation: 
Address 1: 
Address 2: 
City/Town: 
Postcode: 
Country: 
Email address (if no email leave blank): 
Phone Number: 

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
SUBMISSION ID NUMBER 47
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'

I strongly disagree with the term “sexual entertainment” being used to describe the atmosphere in which I work, I believe the change to the terminology from Adult entertainment to the term sexual entertainment deliberately implies that more goes on in the club than you chose to believe or are willing to accept. The girls where I work do no more than dance for the customers, they do nothing more than say a play in a theatre where a woman may be seen topless or naked, super models who wear revealing clothing or even topos are not in the “sexual entertainment business

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?

There should only be one law / regulation for all places of adult entertainment, I believe that a gentleman’s club such as entertainment central provide a genuine safe working environment for women who CHOOSE to work there. These venues are professionally run establishment’s unlike places that would be allowed have this 3 times a year in an uncontrolled environment
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?

I do not think closing these venues would be a wise idea, all of the girls I know who work here chose to do so and it has paid for them to go to university and to save up money to open their own businesses, This place has provided me a place to work after I was made redundant and helped me to pay my bills etc.

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?

I believe it gives local authorities the power to close well established businesses whose owners, managers and staff have met if not exceeded every guideline, objective and code of conduct put to them.
55. Civic Licensing

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

I have been to a few different adult clubs form time to time for stag do’s and works nights out they are just a bit of harmless fun, no one is forced to work there, who would get a dance of an unhappy dancer?