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: 
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'

Having worked as a dancer for the last year and a half I feel that to change the terminology from adult entertainer to sexual entertainer would have serious connotations. I feel that it would be derogative to me and my profession.

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 this was to happen the implications would be that as a dancer I would be put into an unsafe environment without the appropriate rules and regulations being enforced. I have worked within regulated premises as a dancer and would feel extremely vulnerable if the correct security was not in place.
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?

So in my opinion there are no advantages to this situation as dancers and workers in the industry will constantly be in fear that they will lose their jobs, in the current climate this would not be a positive scenario.

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 feel to close the industry in Glasgow/Scotland would not be a positive thing. I love my job and we work as and when we chose to. It is a great environment and I have never felt my safety ever compromised. It would only be negative to shut the clubs down.