

PE2056/C: Introduce legislation allowing Scottish Ministers to intervene on the hire of public land

EventScotland written submission, 6 May 2024

EventScotland thanks the Committee for the opportunity to respond to the above-mentioned petition.

With partners, our aim is to raise Scotland's reputation as a world leading events destination. Events have positive economic, social, and cultural impacts across the country throughout the year. Economically, they support thousands of jobs. This is both directly within the events industry itself, as well as wider sectors including hospitality and tourism.

We support and help develop a strong and dynamic events industry for Scotland by:

- attracting, bidding for, and securing major sporting, cultural and business events for Scotland
- helping to develop a diverse portfolio of events
- providing funding opportunities, guidance, access to resources and insight, along with other support

Our understanding with respect to the context of the petition is that it is the decision of each Local Authority (through the appropriate licensing processes) with regards to the hire of public land for large scale events, rather than Scottish Ministers.

In our experience local authorities, through the licensing process, are well placed to consider the various aspects associated with each event (ranging from small to large scale) to ensure the safety, security, and well-being of all involved.

The Committee may also wish to consider this petition in the context of the Verity House Agreement.