Local Government and Communities Committee
Planning (Scotland) Bill
Submission from Robin Mason
New Developments vis-à-vis Small Music Venues

Hello, I am mailing to add my voice to the call that the new planning bill enshrines the Agent of Change principle - shifting responsibility for managing noise levels from small grass-roots music venues to the developer in question.

I am a practicing Edinburgh based musician, working across a variety genres and venue sizes. I regularly play at and attend grass-roots venues, and I regard such places as being vital to the cultural health, spirit, and diversity of the nation. Such establishments are not money makers, and very often have to fail when confronted with massive bills for noise abatement coming on the back of new developments. I feel very strongly that the onus of accommodating any potential noise issues regarding a new development should lie squarely on the shoulders of the developer. Please follow the example of England and Wales in enacting this principle.