Local Government and Communities Committee

Planning (Scotland) Bill

Submission from Jonathan Trew

I am writing to ask that Scotland follows the UK Government and implements the Agent of Change principle into planning policy to help protect Scotland's music venues.

Glasgow wants to attract visitors and their tourism spend by presenting itself as a music city. Putting the onus on existing music venues to soundproof their buildings threatens their existence and Glasgow's reputation as a music city.

Over the last three years, my colleagues and I have been building Glasgow Music City Tours, a walking tour business that explains the vibrancy of Glasgow's music scene through its venues. When we lose venues, we lose part of our cultural heritage and we lose another reason for people to visit.

We believe that implementing the Agent of Change principle will help protect Scotland's existing music venues and the jobs and businesses that depend on them.