

Proposed Licensing of Funfairs (Scotland) Bill

Page 2: About you

Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

an individual

Which of the following best describes you? (If you are a professional or academic, but not in a subject relevant to the consultation, please choose "Member of the public".)

Member of the public

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

No Response

Please choose one of the following:

I am content for this response to be attributed to me or my organisation

Please insert your name or the name of your organisation. If you choose the first option above, this should be the name as you wish it to be published. If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Niall Cockburn

Please provide details of a way in which we can contact you if there are queries regarding your response. Email is preferred but you can also provide a postal address or phone number. We will not publish these details.

Page 7: Your views on the proposal - Aim and approach

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposal to exempt funfairs from Public Entertainment Licensing requirements and to create a distinct new licensing system for funfairs in Scotland?

Fully Supportive

Please explain the reasons for your response

I fully support the abolition of the licesnce in its current form. Knowing showmen from both Scotland and England it seems very unfair Scottish showmen and women have to pay this extra tarrif to operate their

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposal to exempt funfairs from Public Entertainment Licensing requirements and to create a distinct new licensing system for funfairs in Scotland?

business's that already pay tax and rental of spaces in towns.

Q2. Could the aims of this proposal be better delivered in another way (without a Bill in the Scottish Parliament)?

Unsure

Q3. What do you think would be the main advantages, if any, of the proposal?

Makes a level playing field for funfair operators in the whole of the united Kingdom. Many younger scottish showmen head down to fairs accross the border if they have machines needing finance paid to avoid smaller grounds with extra costs up here.

Q4. What do you think will be the main disadvantages, if any, of the proposal?

No Response

Q5. What do you think the maximum time available should be for local authorities to make a decision on an application to hold a funfair?

less than 14 days (please specify)

Please explain the reasons for your response.

7 Days. Hard working showmen and Showwomen shouldn't be left in the lurch if councils drag out a decision. It would also mean if a ground is flooded and unsuitable alternative ground could then easily be found and not dragged out or force a closure at last minutes.

Q6. How do you think fees should be determined for local authorities to process an application?

fee must not exceed the cost of processing the application

Please explain the reasons for your response, including details of the amount of any suggested fees.

Fees should help every council cover their costs but i do feel they should be subject to public audit. Fees should be accross the board so it doesn't cost any more to get a liscence in Edinburgh or Aberdeen.

Q7. What is your view on what should happen to the fee in cases where an application is refused?

Part of the fee returnable to the applicant

Please explain the reasons for your response

Assuming the reason for the rejection is the councils choice there should be a full refund. If it is because the

Q7. What is your view on what should happen to the fee in cases where an application is refused?

fairground operator has not met the terms of the licensing then there could be a administration fee.

Page 14: Financial implications

Q8. Taking account of both costs and potential savings, what financial impact would you expect the proposed Bill to have on:

	Significant increase in cost	Some increase in cost	Broadly cost-neutral	Some reduction in cost	Significant reduction in cost	Unsure
(a) Showpeople					X	
(b) Local authorities			X			
(c) General public			X			

Please explain the reasons for your response

I once sat in a meeting where an operator told me £900 bought an Edinburgh License for one peice of equipment yet in north berwick he paid just £90 for 3 bits of equipment. I find it hard to belive Edinburgh need £900 to process the same thing North Berwick and East Lothian Council need £90 for.

Page 15: Equalities

Q9. What overall impact is the proposed Bill likely to have on equality, taking account of the following protected characteristics (under the Equality Act 2010): age, disability, gender re-assignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion and belief, sex, sexual orientation?

Positive

Please explain the reasons for your response

This will hopefully help a scottish minority group improve their business conditions making it easier to operate and bring happiness to many throughout scotland along with hopefully new and exciting rides for the public owing to less administration costs.

Q10. In what ways could any negative impact of the proposed Bill on equality be minimised or avoided?

Councils have relied on money coming in to help boost revenue this will in the more expensive areas need replacing.

Page 17: Sustainability

Q11. Do you consider that the proposed Bill can be delivered sustainably i.e. without having likely future disproportionate economic, social and/or environmental impacts?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your response:

I hope it can help everyone and equal the playing field with the showmen having no additional funding that does not exist over the border.

Page 18: General

Q12. Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the proposal to exempt funfairs from Public Entertainment Licensing requirements and to create a distinct new licensing system for funfairs in Scotland?

No Response