

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 would like this response to be anonymous (the response may be published, but no name)

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

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 opposed

Please explain the reasons for your response

While I can see how the proposals seem to address the concerns of the travelling show people, it fails to give local communities an effective voice. This government (rightly) makes a huge deal of the role local communities should have in local decision making, of empowering communities and making Scotland a fairer and more equal place. There needs to be an adequate period of time for local communities to consider proposals for the sighting of fairgrounds. It is not enough to suggest that fairgrounds are an economic benefit

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?

to a community, to do so ignores the reality for many residents and wider community. It is essential to listen to the experiences of residents living adjacent to sites. You cannot play lip service to community empowerment/ engagement, while the rights of communities of interest should be fully considered, this should not be done at the expense of other (geographic) communities.

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

Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your response

I am really unsure that I support the aims of the proposal

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

Reduction in bureaucracy for the travelling show people in the application for licensing.
Reduction in time spent by L A s in processing applications

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

Local communities not given any time to raise concerns about applications .
Local communities losing amenities in residential areas to fair grounds, access to car parks, parkland etc.

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?

unsure

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

fee at local authority's discretion

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

There will be a cost to processing

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

How can we judge the financial cost to the general public? Should you not consider social cost to local communities? Are you considering costs of policing, repairs to sites, clearing public spaces post fair ?

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?

Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your response

It is up to the Scottish Government to carry out an equality impact assessment on this proposal. I would ask you how you plan to do that? How will you consider the rights of people beyond the specified groups.

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

Ask people in communities where regular fairgrounds are sited what their experiences/views are .

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?

No

Please explain the reasons for your response:

Applications for licensing need a realistic period of time for full consideration of potential (and previously experienced) impacts.

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?

I am very concerned with these proposals and the complete lack of adequate consideration given to the views of local residents/communities.