

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".)

Professional with experience in a relevant subject

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Michael Cowie

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

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?

Please explain the reasons for your response

I organise and operate fun fairs in The uk (excluding Scotland) with no problems whatsoever I deal with private land owners and council's alike I feel that the licensing laws in Scotland is a restrictive practice as is stops new fairs attending events etc As we would have to book and pay for the site prior to a license application which is not guaranteed This can not be good for fair trade competition

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

No

Please explain the reasons for your response

I believe that the bill must be passed by the Scottish Parliament to ratify it's authenticity and to make sure that fairs are dealt with fairly and are not subject to unscrupulous land lords

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

The main advantage of the proposal in my opinion would be easier access to new fair sites Giving the general public more choice of events and better value for money

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

I don't think there is a disadvantage
I feel that the long standing tradition of fairgrounds in Scotland as a whole is suffering because of the licensing laws

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?

28 days

Please explain the reasons for your response.

Most funfairs are an annual events I think that 28 days is sufficient for an authority to make a decision on whether to allow or refuse an application As this would give the applicant a chance to change venues

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.

I don't think the fee should exceed the cost of processing the application As this is an additional cost on top of the other fair expenses ie generators security ground rent public toilet facilities

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

Full fee returnable to the applicant

Please explain the reasons for your response

If the applicant is unsuccessful then a full refund should be given upon request of the aforementioned applicant

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

If the bill was approved by the Scottish Parliament Obviously there would be a reduction in costs for fairground operators (no license) costs May be a small increase for authority's ie (no fee for license) I'm sure the public would get better value for money as costs to the fair organisers would be down and I believe that would reflect back to our customers the general public

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?

Neutral (neither positive nor negative)

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

No Response

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

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?

We have had fairs in the uk for generations and have always provided a good quality service to our customers the general public
I feel that if this bill was passed then the general public in Scotland would have a greater choice of venues and events and a more value for money experience