

Proposed Licensing of Funfairs (Scotland) Bill

Page 2: About you

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

on behalf of an organisation

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

Commercial organisation (company, business)

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Thomson's Funfair.

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

As we are the only country in Europe to hold such laws. As a Showman I feel that the licencing process is

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?

restricting our business and costing families a living. The fact you have to apply for some licences 12 weeks before actually operating a funfair and they can be refused a day before the opening is shambolic. Everyone is entitled to make a source of income And the licencing is depriving us of doing so. In today's society having to pay anything from £90-£600 just for an application to be heard is shocking. My view on this is clear to see I strongly oppose licencing for funfairs. It's time to make a change.

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

No

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

Certainly the main advantage would be families will not be deprived of earning an income just because some councillors behind a desk doesn't like the operator of the funfair.

- Families will get a funfair closer to their area rather than travelling miles due to the fact the council had revoked the licence of their local funfair.
- Showmen will stop having to go out of the business due to the fact they have no places or there are minimal funfairs to operate their equipment.
- the public will be the largest beneficiaries as there will be much more variety of funfair equipment at each event.

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

Personally. There will be minimal disadvantage.

Showmen are not above the law. There are rules to. Imply with. they simply are requesting a fair opportunity at making a living.

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.

To apply for a license and wait for any more than 2 weeks then you are unable to guarantee that's your equipment is open those weeks. What are you supposed to do, keep applying for two separate places for the same dates hoping you'll get one?

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

single fee fixed in statute

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

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

How is it that councils can charge different fees for the same application? It's impossible to range the cost from £60 all the way to over £1000?!

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 you are paying for a job to be done anywhere and the job is not done successfully then how can you be expected to pay for it? The simple answer is that you shouldn't.

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

It's a win, win for all. • Showmans costs come down so will the price of the rides for costumers. • The council will not have the costing and overall headache of dealing with the licencing. • The general public will benefit from having lower priced rides and travel costs.

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

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?

The sooner this bill gets overturned the better for everyone.