

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".)

No Response

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

Commercial organisation (company, business)

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.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

Please explain the reasons for your response

The reason for my response is because the current licensing system in Scotland is the only one of its kind in Europe! No other country requires showman to have a license to operate! This effects not only showman but

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?

the public also as the price of a license can be in excess of well over £1000 which has a knock on effect to the price charged per ride for the public due to the high expense of a license, a fun fair already has very high expenses before a license has to be applied and paid for months in advance and on some occasions if there are objections from locals complaining about noise before the fair has even arrived the license is rejected and we therefore lose the money we have laid out for it and have to lose from a week to three weeks of business due to the fact licences must be applied for well in advance and most of the time are not granted until the day of operation! This in turn has a catastrophic effect on showman trying to put on fairs for the public and it restricts us in a way no other showman in Britain or Europe are restricted!

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

This proposal must be taken seriously and be dealt with in a proper manner but if there is another way it should be taken because I believe that people will see that showman are suffering due to the need for a public entertainment license and can look at all the other countries in Europe to see that it is not a requirement that is needed, The Scottish parliament should support this bill to Abolish the need for showman to have public entertainment license regardless of how it is delivered.

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

The main advantages would be:

- Less expense for showman to run a fun fair.
- An alternative site to be located at the last minute of the public are against a fun fair in that certain area.
- The fare charged per ride to the public would decrease due to less expenses in running a fair.
- The chance for land owners to earn more from previous sites licenses were rejected.

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

From my point of view there are no disadvantages for anyone involved.

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.

This would give showman enough time to re-apply for an alternative site without the need to lose any business, Putting a time limit on a persons ability to earn a living is harsh to say the least, if the licenses aren't abolished entirely then there time limit should be reduced dramatically, this would atleast increase a showmans chance of finding another weeks-plus business without being forced to close.

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.

For any local authority to take advantage of the price charged per license is disgraceful, for example the minimum cost for a license in Edinburgh is over £1000! Compare it too south Ayrshire a license costs £225, why does this price differentiate? This is also another problem involved with the public entertainment license for showman, How can it be justified too charge so much more for the exact same thing? This is why there must be a change in the way the charging system works and it should be a face value price for showman to pay that covers the expenses of a local authority to process a license and no extra charge.

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 a license should be rejected then a refund or part refund rule should be in place due to the expense of a license, or possibly there should be an option to change the location of the license at the last minute for a small extra fee and this would save re applying for an entire new license to move the location for example less than a mile.

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 this bill is approved obviously it will benefit showman as the cost of a license will decrease, it will also benefit the general public due to the running costs being less, this should not affect local authorities if showman pay the face value cost of a license to be processed, it will be a change for the better for all parties involved.

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)

Please explain the reasons for your response

It won't have an effect on equality

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

Please explain the reasons for your response:

If the bill is well thought through and handled by the right people for the job there should be no problem in the future.

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?

It should be a priority to make this a reality to save a dying business and help showman deliver a low priced fun fair for everyone once again!