Thank you for responding to the Local Government and Regeneration Committee's Call for Evidence on the Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Bill. All submissions will be examined and considered as part of the Committee's scrutiny of the Bill.

Please be aware that questions marked with an asterisk (*) require an answer before you can submit the form.

Follow the Local Government and Regeneration Committee's Twitter feed - all Committee tweets on this Bill will have the hashtag #aw&lbill.

*1. Please supply your name and contact details:

Name: Michael McDougall
Organisation: Glasgow City Council
Address 1:
Address 2:
City/Town:
Postcode:
Country:
Email address (if no email leave blank):
Phone Number:
2. Please confirm that you have read and understood the Scottish Parliaments “Policy on the treatment of written evidence by subject and mandatory committees”:

x Yes

3. Please confirm whether you are content for your name to be published with your submission:

x Yes

☐ No

4. Which of the three categories below best describes your interest in the Bill (please tick only one)?

☐ Personal

x Professional

☐ Commercial

5. Do you wish your email to be added to the Committee’s distribution list for updates on progress of the Bill:

x Yes

☐ No
6. Invitations to give oral evidence to the Committee on the Bill will be based on the submissions received. If you wish your submission to be included amongst those considered for possible invitation to give oral evidence, please indicate here.

☐ Yes
x No

7. You may answer questions on the entire Bill, or on any part of the Bill. Please indicate which parts of the Bill you are responding to? (You may select as many options that apply).

☐ All of the Bill

☐ Equalities, climate change and other Scottish Government objectives

☐ Air Weapons

☐ General licensing issues

☐ Alcohol licensing

☐ Civic licensing – taxi/private hire car licensing

☐ Civic licensing – scrap metal dealers

☐ Civic licensing – theatre licensing

☐ Civic licensing – sexual entertainment venues
6. Civic Licensing – Theatre Licensing

You may respond to all the questions or only those you have a specific interest in. (Text boxes have no word limit, they will increase in size accordingly).

47. Will there be any impacts during the transitional period between ending the current theatre licence and starting the public entertainment licence?

While the Licensing Authority welcomes the repeal of the Theatres Act 1968 and the introduction of theatres into the public entertainment licence, the Authority would draw the Scottish Government's attention to the need for the Authority's present resolution to be amended. As the Government will be aware, the process to amend could take up to nine months.

The Authority would also suggest that consideration is given to the repeal of the Cinemas Act 1985 and the incorporation of cinemas into the public entertainment licence regime. The Authority notes that England and Wales have both seen the repeal of the 1985 Act.

48. Are there additional costs or resource implications on theatres or licensing authorities?

As outlined above the Licensing Authority is of the view that its current public entertainment resolution will need to be amended. The lapse in time between the repeal of the 1968 Act and the amendment of the resolution will create real practical difficulties for existing theatres. Therefore, the Licensing Authority suggests that the Scottish Government amend the Bill so to provide for the automatic conversion of existing licences to Public Entertainment Licences. A failure to do so will doubtless impact upon existing theatres' finances.

49. How should licensing authorities integrate their current fee charging structure into their public entertainment regime?
The Licensing Authority assumes that as the licensing of theatres is being incorporated into the public entertainment licence and therefore is then part of the 1982 Act then it will be subject to the charging structure of the said Act.