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:**

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<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Jon Morgan</th>
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<td>Organisation:</td>
<td>Federation of Scottish Theatre</td>
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* 2. Please confirm that you have read and understood the Scottish Parliaments “Policy on the treatment of written evidence by subject and mandatory committees”:

☑ Yes

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

☑ Yes

☐ No

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

☐ Personal

☑ Professional

☐ Commercial

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

☑ 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

☐ 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
1. Air Weapons 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).

13. In what ways will the creation of an air weapons licensing system in Scotland contribute to preserving public order and safety, reducing crime and advancing public health policy?

No comment

14. Is there sufficient provision, or sufficient capacity to provide, suitable numbers of air weapons clubs across all areas of Scotland for use by registered air weapons owners/users?

No comment

15. How will the air weapons licensing system affect those using air weapons for personal/recreational use?

No comment
16. How will the air weapons licensing system affect those aged 14 to 17 who use air weapons?

No comment

17. How will the air weapons licensing system affect those using air weapons for commercial/professional reasons (for example: for pest control; as part of the tourist/hunting season; as part of fairs, paintballing centre, entertainment sector etc.)?

Very few theatres use live air weapons in performances, most preferring to use dummy or ‘prop’ weapons. Where they do use air weapons, it would be helpful to clarify if they will need to have a licence even if they are hiring from a licensed supplier for a defined period (as opposed to owning and keeping an air weapon permanently on their premises) or whether it is sufficient to apply for a temporary police permit. We understand the proposed exemption is for the individual performer handling a weapon in performance and not for the theatre management who may have to store a hired air weapon overnight between performances.

18. How will the air weapons licensing system affect those using air weapons for competitive sporting purposes?

No comment

19. Is it equitable for those applying for an air weapons certificate to pay a fee which cannot be refundable irrespective of whether a certificate is granted or not?
20. Will the air weapons licensing system have a positive or negative impact on other areas of the public sector in Scotland (eg. The work of local government, public agencies etc.)?

No comment

21. What, if any, might the unintended consequences of introducing an air weapons licensing system in Scotland be?

No comment

22. Do you have any other comments to make on air weapons licensing aspects of the Bill?

No comment