

### **All Consultation responses received**

Q4 - Four Residents, Community Council Representative, Police Scotland, Perth and Kinross Councillor, Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre Representative, Safer Communities Representative, Violence Against Women Partnership Representative, Equalities Representative, Child Protection Inter-Agency Coordinator.

#### **Q5 - Do you agree/disagree that the Council should licence SEVs within Perth and Kinross? 6 strongly agree and 6 agree**

100% agree that the Council should licence SEVs.

#### **Q6 - Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree, neither agree or disagree that the Council should set a maximum number of SEV's within Perth and Kinross. 5 strongly agree, 4 agree, 1 no response, 1 neither agrees or disagrees and 1 disagrees.**

75% agree that the Council should set a maximum number of SEV's, with the remaining 25% neither agrees nor disagrees, disagrees and no response.

#### **Q7 - What number of SEV's do you think the Council should set for Perth and Kinross?**

12 responses were as follows: -

8 – zero, 1 very small amount, 2 nil response and 1 no limit.

67% want the limit to be set at zero, 8% very small amount, 17% nil response and 8% no limit.

#### **Q8 - Please consider the type of areas if licenced where a SEV might operate, and tell us whether you strongly agree, agree, strongly disagree, disagree, neither agree or disagree that the following areas would normally be suitable for SEV's to operate.**

Out of the 12 responses, 6 answered this question with 2 strongly disagreeing that any type of areas would be suitable to operate an SEV. The remaining results were as follows: -

City Centre - 2 strongly disagreed (50%), 1 agreed (25%) and 1 disagreed (25%).

Rural Area - 3 disagreed (75%) and 1 agreed (25%).

Busy late night economy area - 2 strongly disagreed (50%), 1 disagreed (25%) and 1 agreed (25%)

Residential area outwith the town/city centre - 3 strongly disagree (75%) and 1 neither agreed or disagreed (25%)

Industrial or commercial area - 3 strongly disagreed (75%) and 1 agreed (25%)

**Q9 - Do you strongly agree, agree, strongly disagree, disagree, neither agree or disagree that it would be acceptable to have a SEV in the following places or near to the following types of area or landmark?**

Out of 12, 6 consultees answered this question with 2 strongly disagreeing that any places or near to landmarks would be suitable for an SEV to operate. The remaining four consultees answered as follows: -

Residential areas – 3 strongly disagreed (75%) and 1 neither agreed or disagreed (25%).

Late night entertainment areas – 2 strongly disagreed (50%), 1 disagreed (25%) and 1 agreed (25%).

Retail shopping area – 3 strongly disagreed (75%) and 1 agreed (25%).

Places of worship – 3 strongly disagreed (75%) and 1 agreed (25%).

Family leisure facilities such as swimming pools and concert halls – 3 strongly disagreed (75%) and 1 neither agree or disagreed (25%).

Places used for celebration or commemoration – 3 disagree (75%) and 1 neither agrees or disagrees (25%).

Area/place/landmark - Historic buildings – 3 strongly disagree (75%) and 1 agree (25%).

Area/place/landmark - Play areas or parks – 3 strongly disagree (75%) and 1 neither agrees or disagrees (25%).

**Q10 - What conditions (if any) should the Council consider for Sexual Entertainment Venue licences? (See above paragraph for examples)**

One consultee suggested that all the standard conditions listed within the consultation document be used which are: -

- list of full names, dates of birth, nationality and contact details (address or telephone number) for all performers to be available on the premises for immediate production if requested by authorised local authority officers;
- ensure immigration status is in order and actively seek to identify performers who may have been the victim of human trafficking;
- provision of hygienic changing and showering facilities and a toilet with access to hot water exclusively for the use of the performers;
- regulation of the display of advertisements on or connected to the venue;
- the interior of the SEV not to be visible to passers-by;
- the licence holder to ensure no physical contact between performers and customers;
- the licence holder to ensure no photographs or video recordings are taken of the performers.
- days and times to be provided when the premises is to be used as an SEV.

Other suggestions included: -

- restrict trading hours, regulate the display of advertisements on or about the venue;

- restrict the visibility of the interior of the premises to passers-by;
- High quality CCTV and identification provision as part of a sign-in system is a requirement within the licence conditions. This will assist in maximising public safety.

#### **Q11 - Other comments: -**

**Individual** - Given that sex and sexual thoughts are inherent to all beings, attempting to cover up the existence or appearance of Sexual Entertainment Venues at certain places or times seems pointless. What would be the purpose other than so as to not offend people's socially constructed sensibilities of what is 'proper'? Sex and biology are ingrained human traits, unlike society's idea of what is 'acceptable', which changes at a faster rate than ever before in history.

The human body is the human body. Issues around Sexual Entertainment will emerge due to humanity's idiocy. It can be anticipated that there will be violence (physical and sexual) and aggression because people are generally herded into behaviours accentuated by alcohol.

In theory there should be no limit or restriction on the activities of the human body, nor censorship of it, amongst consenting adults. In practice, however, this is an impossibility. Humans cannot, or choose not to, control themselves.

**Organisation** - The Perth and Kinross Violence Against Women Partnership, supported and funded by Perth and Kinross Council, is fully aligned to the Scottish Governments and COSLA's strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls, Equally Safe. The vision statement set out in Equally Safe is

“A strong and flourishing Scotland where all individuals are equally safe and respected and where women and girls live free from all forms of violence and abuse – and the attitudes that help perpetuate it.”

The strategy specifically includes in its definition of violence against women

“Violence against women encompasses commercial sexual exploitation, including prostitution, lap dancing, stripping, pornography and trafficking”.

NOT to require SEV's to be licensed and NOT to set the number at licences at ZERO would effectively be supporting violence against women, as defined. This would be anathema to the above statements and to the stance that Perth & Kinross Council has taken so far given its support of the PKWAVP and its funding of organisations specifically focused on survivors of gender based and sexual violence – RASAC, Perthshire Women's Aid, Barnardo's.

To allow the establishment of SEV's in Perth & Kinross would, on the contrary, be a very visible statement of support of behaviour which exploits and disrespects women – this does not reflect a majority view of the type of society which the Council has thus far sought to promote.

**Organisation** - Assessment that Sexual Entertainment Venues may increase criminality in the area. Later operating hours may attract persons who have already consumed large quantities of alcohol. There may be increased instances of anti-social behaviour, including noise, litter and violence as a result.

Assessment that this may exploit vulnerable members of the Community.

That background checks which provide sufficient information to enable a 'fit and proper' assessment of those applying for such a licence with a focus on public protection. This should apply to companies or persons applying for this type of licence who should provide evidence as part of the application process.

**Individual** - Why sex is such a controversial topic that so many seem to feel shame about is beyond me. We're all here, are we not?

**Individual** - I agree with the following statement.

The Scottish Government definition of commercial sexual exploitation notes that it is harmful "irrespective of whether individual women claim success or empowerment from the activity".

**Individual** - I agree with the following policy.

The Scottish Government definition of commercial sexual exploitation notes that it is harmful "irrespective of whether individual women claim success or empowerment from the activity".

**Organisation** – The Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre Perth and Kinross, strongly recognise SEV as a form of commercial sexual exploitation / violence against women. We would support the capped number to be at 0 in line with a zero tolerance to such offences. We consider that anything more than this would legitimize this form of exploitation. At RASAC P&K we would strongly recommend capping the number at 0, we consider the activities that are undertaken within these venues such as stripping and lap dancing as commercial sexual exploitation and therefore a form of violence against women (VAW). Furthermore, to allow a SEV to operate in our community would directly contradict and challenge Equally Safe, Scotland's strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls where it clearly defines such activities as a form of VAW. Additionally, to allow an SEV to operate in our community would normalise and even promote the idea that women's bodies are a commodity to be bought and sold, therefore rejecting the vision of Equally Safe where:

*'All individuals are equally safe and respected, and where women and girls live free from all forms of violence and abuse - and the attitudes that help perpetuate it.'*

The licensing of these venues would also negatively impact on P&K as a community. Research indicates a link between SEV's and organised crime, including human trafficking and prostitution, an increase in other forms of both violent and non-violent crime, anti-social behaviour and also links to a reduction in the public's sense of safety.

**Organisation** - Following a discussion at a recent Earn Community Council meeting, I have been advised to inform P&KC that "ECC encourages P&KC to adopt powers to licence SEV'S".

**Organisation** - SEV is sexual exploitation and provides a gateway to prostitution and serious organised crime.

**Individual** - Lap dancing, stripping etc. are forms of sexual exploitation and that these activities are incompatible with gender equality.

**Organisation** - Recommendation that demand for Sexual Entertainment Venues as well as relevant core operating hours are considered based on locality and other similar venues already in existence in the vicinity.