

Proposed Tied Pubs (Code and Adjudicator) (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; if you choose the first option, please provide your name or the name of your organisation as you wish it to be published.

I would like this response to be anonymous (the response may be published, but no name)

Please provide your name or the name of your organisation

Please provide 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.

Q1. 1. Which of the following best expresses your view of establishing a statutory Scottish Pubs Code and Scottish Pubs Code Adjudicator? Please explain the reasons for your response.

Fully supportive

Comments:

Large pub companies have no real governing body. Law unto themselves.

Q2. 2. Could the aims of this proposal be better delivered in another way (without a Bill in the Scottish Parliament)?

No

Please explain the reasons for your response.

Needs governed or the large pub companies will disregard an alternative proposal.

Q3. 3. What do you think would be the main advantages, if any, of establishing a statutory Scottish Pubs Code and Adjudicator?

Establish a clear set of rules and guidelines to be followed. Fairness - set standards.

Q4. 4. What do you think would be the main disadvantages, if any, of establishing a statutory Scottish Pubs Code and Adjudicator?

None

Q5. 5. Which of the following best expresses your view of establishing a Market Rent Only option for tenants as part of a Scottish Pubs Code?

Fully supportive

Please explain the reasons for your response

Dependant on type of operator gives us scope for choice, fairer deal. Helps us compete in an open market.

Q6. 6. What do you think of the proposed contents of the Bill and the Code, and the scope of the Adjudicator's powers, as detailed on pages 17-18 of the consultation document?

The content is fair and clear - powers are adequate given the circumstances.

Q7. 7. Which of the following best expresses your view of the Scottish Pubs Code Adjudicator being able to impose financial penalties for breaches of the Code?

Fully supportive

Please explain the reasons for your response.

If there are no fines then breaches will be rife. The code would be ignored otherwise. Pub companies fine us regularly.

Q8. 8. In terms of who the Scottish Pubs Code, and Market Rent Only option, should apply to, which of the following best expresses your view? If you choose option (a) you will automatically be taken to question 10. If you choose (b) or (c) you will automatically be taken to question 9.

(a) The Scottish Pubs Code - including the Market Rent Only option - should apply to all tied pubs in Scotland

Please explain the reasons for your response.

(a) Shouldn't matter who or what size - a level playing field to all!

Q9. 9. How should larger pubcos be defined (e.g. by size of turnover, number of tied pubs owned in Scotland (if so, how many, etc.))?

No Response

Page 17: Financial implications

Q10. 10. 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) the pub companies which own tied pubs (Pubcos)						X
(b) Tied-pub tenants					X	
(c) Tied-pub customers					X	

Please explain the reasons for your response

(a) The Pubcos need to manage their business appropriately so that they negate any costs. Streamline their businesses accordingly. (b) Rents will no doubt be increased. However the savings on tied products will be high. Reducing costs. (c) 50% savings on packaged products. 25% savings on draught! Financial year 15/16 I did a comparison tied vs free. Personally £36K better off!

Q11. 11. How do you think the associated costs of the proposal (predominantly the establishment and on-going running costs of a Scottish Pub Code Adjudicator) should be funded?

Across the board shared. Pubcos/tenants/suppliers etc. Small levy.

Page 19: Equalities

Q12. 12. 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?

Unsure

Q13. 13. In what ways could any negative impact of the Bill on any of the protected characteristics be minimised or avoided?

n/a

Page 21: Sustainability of the Proposal

Q14. 14. Do you consider that the proposed Bill can be delivered sustainably, i.e. without having future disproportionate economic, social and/or environmental impacts?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your response

I'm sure it will be well thought out and governed appropriately.

Page 22: General

Q15. 15. Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the proposal?

No Response