

Proposed Tied Pubs (Code and Adjudicator) (Scotland) Bill

Page 2: About you

Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

an individual

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".)

Member of the Public

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

No Response

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:

I am not a drinker and I don't often go to a pub, but local pubs with local landlords, allowed to choose what beers they sell, are essential to communities.

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.

Changes like this need to go through government channels.

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

Someone is needed to inspect and adjudicate, but please don't let this become an immense talking shop of people in an easy job financed by the public. One or two competent people with a good secretary are all that are needed.

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

Backhanders? Favouritism? Cronyism? The code must be applied impartially.

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?

Partially supportive

Please explain the reasons for your response

The market rent should not be extortionate or more than the big brewing firms charge.

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?

All looks reasonable.

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.

The only appropriate penalty.

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.

It should be the same for every pub.

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			

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?

By the Scottish government through a larger tax on Pubcos' profits. Yes, they would probably lose a bit through reduced rents but bonuses for shareholders and salaries for CEOs etc. should be reduced.

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?

Neutral (neither positive nor negative)

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?

Please explain the reasons for your response

Who or what you are doesn't have much to do with running a pub if you are doing the job properly and legally.

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

I don't believe that there will be a negative impact.

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

As I said previously, there is no need for a massive staff producing reams of paper or wasting time on too much discussion.

Page 22: General

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

No.