

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:

Pubs, especially those selling a restricted range of products tend to attract a restricted number or type of clientel. While this may not be a bad thing it doesn't expand the range of pubs out there nor does it encourage people to try other drinks. We recently stopped at a pub we had never visited and my sons and

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.

husband enjoyed sampling 3 local beers (I was dd), and sampling each other's choice. They had a great time.

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

Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your response.

Not sure self regulation works so don't see what other option is possible.

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

A wider variety of local and craft beers available, greater variety of pub atmospheres, fairer working/pay conditions for pub owners or landlords.

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

Possibly, or even likely, fewer pubs, as they find themselves unable to compete in the recreational drink culture.

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

Artificially set rents are not likely to accurately reflect operating conditions.

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?

Not sufficiently expert to have an opinion on this aspect of the bill.

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?

Partially supportive

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?

Please explain the reasons for your response.

This will of course depend on whether the intent is to use carrot or stick through the penalty, its level and the intended impact.

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.

This option is fairer 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

Not really familiar with the economics of this sector.

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?

Pubs should make a contribution, possibly through a small levy on the drink sold, but if this is a regulatory requirement, gov't needs to pay to maintain neutrality of the post.

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)

Please explain the reasons for your response

Cannot see how this impacts

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

Unsure, sorry

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?

Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your response

This may depend on the funding of the adjudicator's post, although other factors could play a part.

Page 22: General

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

No Response