

Dr Kevin Pelan
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6th January 2016

Dear Dr Pelan

Licensing Bill

Further to your letter of 8th December 2015, please accept my apologies for the lateness of our reply. I have spoken to officers from relevant councils, in particular those who deal with licensing and stadium safety, and they have expressed no concern in relation to the provisions of this Bill.

Councils have no responsibility for liquor licensing and so the Bill will have no direct impact on council licensing activities.

In relation to Stadium safety, this Bill will not affect the requirements placed on stadia through the Northern Ireland Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds (the 'red guide').

<http://www.sportni.net/sportni/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Red-Guide-2nd-Edition.pdf>

It is likely that there will be no material change to current activities at the stadia involved, and that the changes proposed within this Bill will be of a more administrative and business nature.

NILGA would therefore like to thank the Committee for seeking our views on this Bill and for the invitation to meet the Committee to discuss key issues. On this occasion however, there are no concerns from a local government viewpoint, requiring substantive discussion. Should the Committee still require attendance from local government to discuss the Bill, please let me know as soon as possible, with detail of any issue that they may be particularly keen to discuss.

Yours sincerely



Karen Smyth
Head of Policy