

### Appendix 3

#### Consultation responses: -

**(Q1) As there are currently six licensed premises in the city centre at the time of writing, but only four are in operation, what would be an appropriate number of Sexual Entertainment Venue premises in Aberdeen city centre?**

- 1 venue – 11 votes;
- 2 venues – 6 votes;
- 3 venues – 6 votes;
- 4 venues – 24 votes;
- 5 venues – 7 votes;
- 6 venues – 38 votes.
- Other – 87 votes

**(Q2) If your answer to the above question is "Other" please provide your suggestion below**

1. As many as possible in that area that can be licenced, charged, taxed for revenue.
2. None
3. None
4. Zero
5. None.
6. 0
7. 0
8. 0
9. No Limit
10. No Limit
11. None
12. NONE
13. 0
14. None
15. None
16. It should be 3 and also an women club as male strippers instead of women
17. Any number of there is a demand, but there is no demand so will fizzle out anyway.
18. What's ever best for the city and will generate money
19. None
20. 0
21. Zero
22. ZERO
23. More than six, there shouldn't be a limit
24. 8
25. 0
26. 15
27. As many as are commercially viable
28. Zero
29. There should be no cap there should be as many venues as there is the demand and customer base for
30. There should be no cap in or out of the city, there should be as many as needed
31. There should be no cap, there should be as many as demanded
32. There should be no cap

33. Unlimited amount
34. There should be no cap and there should be as many as there is demand
35. 8-10
36. No limit
37. As many as people want to open
38. Zero
39. None
40. Zero
41. None
42. As many is commercially viable allowing a free economy
43. As many as wished
44. 0
45. None
46. As many as there is demand for
47. NONE
48. There should be no limit - let the market decide. There is very clearly no danger of the city being overrun by strip clubs!
49. None
50. None
51. No limit as long as they're profitable/properly taxed, well managed, and try not to disrupt the local area too much (with regards to noise/light and potentially unruly clients)
52. 20
53. Zero
54. I feel no limit is necessary
55. As many as meet the regulations
56. As long as managed correctly, don't see any issue with however many are applied for.
57. None
58. None
59. 0
60. None - they are damaging establishments
61. Zero 0
62. None
63. Zero
64. None
65. None
66. None
67. There shouldn't be any, the streets are dangerousness enough without encouraging more deviants being invited Into town
68. 0 - would not want any
69. None
70. 0
71. None
72. Like any other businesses as many as people want to open, we don't limit other businesses to only a certain number
73. Zero
74. None
75. 0
76. More than enough
77. ZERO

- 78. None
- 79. None at all.
- 80. None
- 81. 0
- 82. 0
- 83. 0
- 84. 10
- 85. None
- 86. 0
- 87. None
- 88. None
- 89. As many people as want to open and operate a strip club should be allowed to. However, licenses should only be granted to those who are currently operating. Currently, there is no strip club that specifically caters to the LGBT community.
- 90. 20
- 91. Zero
- 92. There is no need nowadays for a particular venue to cater for sexual entertainment.
- 93. Zero. There should be no sexual entertainment venues. This is a breeding ground for uncontrollable sexual appetite which leads to sexual abuse and exploitation in the city. What happens when individuals can't make time to the sexual entertainment venues. Their neighbours and youths become victims of such untamed appetites. This is wrong and it should not be topic of discussion. There are many refugees in the city whom also become strongly convinced to become sex entertainers due to venues like this existing. What will become of our society if this is given a formal jurisdiction. I say no the sexual entertainment venues in the city. None

**(Q3) Should the number of Sexual Entertainment Venue premises outwith the city centre remain at zero?**

Yes – 123 votes  
No – 61 votes

**(Q4) If your answer to the above question is “No”, please explain why**

1. Boost economy
2. Persons individual choice to go. Adults should be able to make their own choice of where to visit
3. Policing, CCTV and lighting can be provided anywhere. I see no other real reason for these venues being city Centre only. If anything they could be in more isolated/rural areas.
4. If people live healthy sex lives this isn't an issue that's affecting anyone who doesn't.
5. We should be supporting the women that work in the industry and opening up in areas where there aren't any.
6. providing that the women and men there consent to being there, and enjoy their work, and there are ID-ers at the door, I don't see the issue with however many there be. Aberdeen is a big city, if there were streets upon streets of them, that might be an issue yes, but there's not, there's 4 operating ones. If the issue is women and men being forced to work there, then that's an investigation into specific clubs, which is a different issue altogether.
7. There is a place for this kind of work provided it is regulated to protect the workers and customers.

8. Get rid of them all
9. If people want to open them out with the city centre then let them
10. It's adult entertainment and should be amongst the pub district
11. Business should be allowed to trade anywhere
12. If there is a business case for a bother venue then it should be allowed
13. as I think that at is the best place for them as would not want see them in the community as think that the city centre is the best place for them
14. Provide more options for customers who don't want to travel, and to provide potential jobs for those in more remote areas.
15. There's no valid reason for it.
16. Again, if managed correctly, why does location matter?
17. Sex is for everyone, everyone does it, so again if they meet the criteria there shouldn't be an issue
18. I believe a limit would be enough, like before.
19. people should do what they want - I don't like them but it's everybody's choice
20. I'm sure there would be some demand outside the city
21. Why not ? Have them anywhere.
22. There are other areas such as queens road that could offer ideal facilities for such venues but it's not right in town. If there was say a lap dancing club as part of a hotel in a separate area that would be fine.
23. Needs regulated to protect sex workers
24. I have no objections to them being established outside the city centre (and even outwith the city itself if there's a market for it)
25. Significant risk of underground establishments opening and these then being a opportunity for exploitation of workers and links to organised crime
26. Why not have outwith city centre?
27. While the city centre is probably the most likely place, I don't have any real opinion on having them elsewhere in the right setting.
28. Again, if there is demand then let it happen. Why put restrictions in place.
29. I don't see why there shouldn't be as many as wished
30. It may work better outwith the centre. Anything that can help regenerate the city
31. I don't think it matters where the venues are located, but I think it is important to allow freedom of expression and safe places for women who want to work in SEV's to do that.
32. These places should be accessible to everyone
33. Containing venues to one area adds competition. Spread them out and this will have benefits on venues around too.
34. there should be no cap in or out of the city and there should be enough to satisfy demand in that area
35. These venues offer a safe place for people to who \*\*\*\*\* work to do their work without having to rely on unsafe places that have different control
36. In combination with bad transport options, it means that people who work in the city are stranded in the city until buses are available again in the early hours of the morning, putting workers at risk of violence. Closer by options allows for higher safety
37. There should be as many as the demand is.
38. There should be no cap in or out if the city
39. There should be no cap
40. Human need
41. Its arbitrary to decide zero

42. It is a way for people to make money and businesses to and the economy to flourish. As long as the girls + guys are kept safe from unscrupulous behaviour or unwanted solicitation, I cannot see why this could be a problem.
43. If there is a better location, such as for access, or a better building to turn it into one, why should it be limited to the centre? Narrow minded
44. Support businesses what wanna come or support new ones
45. If there is a demand then let it be. But there is no demand.
46. It would be nice to not have to go into the city centre for this type of entertainment
47. I don't think it needs to be limited
48. It should be a couple but should be an place for women to see men strip instead of women as in Aberdeen their is more strip clubs for men and not for women
49. Enable a wider distribution of facilities across the city, enable people to attend without having to travel to the centre.
50. Allow a bit of competition and diversification. The venue would need to be kept low key/discreet if in a residential area.
51. If people want to use these entertainment venues why shouldn't there be more in Aberdeenshire or beyond. Why should people have to travel to Aberdeen to visit this type of show.
52. If we must have them, then let them be far away from the city centre so that the city centre can become a family friendly place to visit instead of being a sleazy run down dump which it is at present
53. allow free trading, this will settle the matter without the council involving itself again
54. Not everyone goes to city centre, venues including nightclubs should be available outwith the city centre.
55. No I've answered because there wasn't a not really bothered a third answer
56. No limit....people should have choice and be free to trade or work
57. Would prefer outwith city centre
58. i have no reason other than business should be allowed to open anywhere, unless there is some issues with regulatory compliance.
59. They shouldn't be in residential areas, but what about business/industrial areas that are not used at the moment, closed factories, business units, large office complexes.
60. It increase sexual appetite and increases the likelihood of people cravings. Untamed sexual appetite can lead to more sexual abuse in the community. It is even worse outside the city centre cause it means less likely to be reported due to the reduced population of people therefore less likely to be caught on time.

**(Q5) Have you noticed any impact on the community from the introduction of the licensing of Sexual Entertainment Venues?**

Yes – 42 votes  
No – 137 votes

**(Q6) If you have answered “Yes” to the above question, please explain what the impact has been**

1. Backwards outdated place
2. Strange, aroused men lingering around the one near the water in Aberdeen makes the area feel very unsafe for women
3. Come on this type of events cause people to have a drive for women and this is where relationships breakdown! People being sexually abused !
4. Encourages \*\*\*\*\* use, anti social behaviour and exploitation of woman and girls

5. Damage to community image: Strip clubs don't fit with efforts to make Aberdeen a vibrant, modern, and inclusive city. They push away families, visitors, and businesses who want a safer and more positive environment. Objectification and exploitation: These venues encourage the view that people (especially women) are objects to be bought and used. This normalises unhealthy attitudes and can fuel wider issues of disrespect and violence. Public safety concerns: Strip clubs can bring increased crime and antisocial behaviour to surrounding areas. Police and council resources are stretched to monitor these venues, resources that could be used to support community safety elsewhere. Negative impact on nearby businesses and property: Local shops, cafés, and family-focused businesses often struggle near these venues, and property values can drop. Many business owners don't want to be associated with this kind of activity. Harm to workers and families: People working in these environments often face stigma, mental health struggles, and risks of exploitation. Families are affected when loved ones get drawn into these venues, whether as workers or as customers.
6. Shady characters hanging around
7. Objectification of women Inflaming unhealthy lusts and putting women at risk
8. Fighting
9. Men are becoming delinquents!!
10. Leads to more provocative behaviour in towns putting under-age people at risk. Leading to grooming like Rochdale and sexual exploitation. Needs to be kept within a city where it can be safely monitored as cities have larger police forces to react to any trouble as towns have smaller police forces and are understaffed. Poverty stricken areas are more likely to be targeted by those that want to exploit and will not improve SIMD in towns it will encourage growth of these pockets attracting more vulnerable people
11. The area around the venue looks rundown and uncared for. Would not like to walk around the venue late at night as a woman.
12. Less visitors in the city centre area that these venues are in. Other venues struggling for certain licences
13. I have known someone who has worked in one of these venues, and it has brought shame to the girls family and they no longer speak to one another.
14. It has encouraged more deviant people into Aberdeen, women are being approached by undesirables and it's getting worse.
15. Public outlook on women. The women behind the scenes who 'choose' to work there. Exploited rights. Fear of walking past these premises for the unknown of who is lurking outside. Encourages \*\*\*\*\* inappropriate behaviours.
16. Heard of stories of money laundering and multiple men's cards being tapped for thousands of pounds whilst being inebriated
17. Degradation of women, and harm to relationships
18. Strip clubs harm Aberdeen's community character Strip clubs undermine Aberdeen's efforts to build a safe, family-friendly city centre. Many residents want a welcoming environment that encourages families, students, and tourists — not one overshadowed by adult entertainment venues. The presence of these clubs can make people feel unsafe or uncomfortable, especially at night. They encourage harmful views towards women Strip clubs are often linked to the objectification and exploitation of women. Instead of promoting respect and equality, they normalise the idea that women's bodies are for sale. In Aberdeen, local consultation showed strong public concern that these clubs "damage the lives of the men who attend" and "exploit the women who work there." Public safety risks Aberdeen has already seen violent incidents connected to these venues, including assaults and property

damage. The police and council must allocate extra resources to manage these risks, taking attention and funding away from more constructive community services. Negative impact on local businesses and property Strip clubs can deter other businesses from investing in the area, especially those focused on hospitality, family dining, and retail. Properties close to such venues may lose value or become harder to lease, harming local owners and discouraging growth. Conflicts with Aberdeen's image and economic goals Aberdeen works hard to promote itself as a vibrant, modern city — attractive to students, professionals, and visitors. Allowing strip clubs undermines this image, conflicting with efforts to revitalise Union Street and encourage a safe, lively city centre. Divides and damages community trust Debates over strip clubs often cause division. Many residents feel unheard when venues are approved despite objections, damaging trust in local decision-makers. In Aberdeen, a large number of public responses to the council's consultation opposed these venues, showing a strong desire for change. Supports a wider culture of sexual exploitation The existence of legal adult entertainment venues can create a normalised culture that makes it easier for underground sexual exploitation (including trafficking) to thrive. While not all clubs are directly involved in such practices, they can contribute to a broader system that puts vulnerable people at risk. Conclusion: Prioritise safety and dignity Aberdeen should focus on policies that protect women, support local businesses, and create welcoming spaces for everyone. Limiting or closing strip clubs aligns with these goals, strengthens the city's reputation, and shows commitment to community wellbeing and respect. Questions to ask ourselves about strip clubs in Aberdeen If you are a wife, would you want your husband spending his evenings there? If you are a mother or father, would you want your daughter working there? If you are a brother, would you want your sister dancing there? If you are a son or daughter, would you want your mum working in that environment? If you are a business owner, would you want your shop or café right next door? If you are a teacher, would you be comfortable telling your pupils you support these venues in their city? If you are a neighbour, would you feel safe with a strip club opening in your street? If you are a council leader, would you proudly include these clubs when promoting Aberdeen as a place to visit and raise a family? If you are a visitor, is that the experience you want to associate with Aberdeen's hospitality and nightlife? If you are a young person, is this the example of respect and dignity you want to see for women and men in your community? If the answer to any of these is no, then we must ask ourselves: Why do we allow these clubs at all? They do not reflect the values of respect, safety, and community pride that most people in Aberdeen share.

19. no but I think if they were to move in to the community and out with the city centre the I think that they would be a impact on the community
20. Cheapens the city. Makes aberdeen look dirty.
21. INFLIX OF TRAFFICD ROMANIAN WOMEN AND MALE SUICIDES DUE TO SHAME OF LOSING SO MUCH MONEY TO THESE ROMANIANS
22. Objectification of women. Potentially dangerous for women passing close by these venues as men think they are sexually available. Frightening atmosphere fir women.
23. Girls seducing and inviting men in the streets.0
24. Various time have been approached while passing and pressured into going in. They didn't like when I didn't.
25. Lowers the tone of the city. The first things you see when you come off the train/bus in Aberdeen going up bridge street are strip clubs. Bad first impression to our city. The strippers standing outside smoking is a terrible look too.

26. The sexist sexual objectification of women and girls has become normalised. It can, and does, lead to male violence against women and girls. In the era of e.g. \*\*\* Personal details have been removed \*\*\* , ACC should not be complicit in this violence.
27. The community of women. Exploitation of women and promotion of patriarchal structures which affect women not in the sex industry.
28. More exploitation of women
29. Increases general misogynist views of all women and girls which in turn leads to increased risk of harm to females in society. Destructive impact on morals, marriage, relationships and sex.
30. Brings an unpalatable and disreputable look to the city centre.
31. There is now too many venues for the size of Aberdeen. There is a noticeable degeneration in the city centre area, partly due to the number of venues drawing in too many people. Too little policing of the area has also meant that the city centre is a no go zone at night, especially for women.
32. The City Centre is full of dangers now and not as safe as it once was with lots of anti social behaviour and its just not the kind of patrons we want in the city centre. I am scared for my daughter to go up the town.
33. There appears to be less sexual harassment of scantily clad young ladies in the streets and bars of Aberdeen. Men can get their kicks at the licensed sexual entertainment venues instead.
34. Young men talking openly about buying sexual time with women. On public transport. In beer gardens. Expecting women who pole dance or strip to perform other sexual services.
35. Rapes and sexual violence against women is up 15% per the news today. Many young men are already addicted to pornography which is destructive in terms of their attitude towards women and their approach to sex. These venues further demean women, turning them into sex objects. This tragically spills over into family relationships and shapes many men's attitudes towards their partners and where sexual activity does not meet expectation causes harm and family and therefore societal breakdown.
36. It makes the city centre, specially near the transport hub area, seem \*\*\*\*\* and unsafe. Women should not be dehumanised as a commodity.
37. It enhance moral decadence among the under aged loitering around city centre.
38. Behaviour around venues makes it feel less safe
39. I know that one application has been turned down due to the policy and was able to use the policy to respond to it.
40. Yes, it has invades the society and affect Aberdeen which is known for it decency and safety. Rape and sexual harassment reports have increased especially amongst young people. Victims are emotional affected and no longer value there bodies. Results in self harm which leads to drug addiction, or becoming sexual predators or increase sexual exploration which leads to lots of teenager motherhood, STDs etc

**(Q7) Do you have any comments on any aspect of the existing Sexual Entertainment Venue licensing policy?**

1. Why in this age would you want people in your towns who would want this. Just another reason to avoid a place that is already on the way down
2. No



3. The whole policy promotes a derogatory, offensive and abusing view of women in a negative manner that promotes amusement, pleasure and sexual gratification from men as acceptable in society - promoting such behaviour no matter how it is addressed is insulting, offensive, abusive and undermining to all women
4. Why does it not cover people offering paid sexual services from their place of residence (paying no taxes and breaking visa provisions). Which if it's your Neighbour it's far more intrusive than in the city centre business properties.
5. There's no comments on the moral implications and the encouragement of sexual deviancy on families and young people, particularly young men.
6. Shouldn't be happening
7. Nope
8. No
9. No, as I feel these venues are unnecessary.
10. Objectifies women, encourages sexist behaviour and reinforces certain cultures attitudes to treating women badly. Should all be closed down
11. No
12. None other than it shouldn't be allowed
13. Na
14. As per previous
15. It is extremely concerning that it is even a consideration to expand sexual entertainment venues. I do NOT want this in my town.
16. My comment on the Sexual Entertainment Venue (SEV) licensing policy I believe Aberdeen should strongly reconsider allowing SEVs at all. These venues undermine community safety, dignity, and the city's image. They contribute to the objectification of women and create environments where exploitation and violence can thrive. Many local residents do not want these venues near homes, schools, or family-friendly businesses. I ask everyone to reflect: as a wife, would you want your husband there? As a mother or father, would you want your daughter working there? As a brother, would you want your sister there? As a business owner, would you want your shop next door? If the honest answer is no, we must ask why we continue to permit them in our community at all. Instead of licensing and regulating these venues, we should be protecting vulnerable people and promoting a culture of respect and safety. Aberdeen deserves better. Let's focus on building a city that reflects dignity, respect, and care for all its residents.
17. Yes, there's no overprovision in this area, as out of the four that are currently operating, three of them are all on the same road. There are only two takeaways nearby, and all you need to do is walk five minutes around the corner to find one. Also, there's no mention of alcohol in this application. I think they need to speak to the Licensing Board about how alcohol is regulated and considered. Additionally, both the City Centre and Ferryhill & Ruthrieston Community Councils have previously raised points when new premises have been proposed or when changes to existing ones were suggested.
18. None
19. No
20. It looks like you are trying to relocate the dirty smutty little venues to industrial estates, has no one been to anywhere other than this uptight country, visit Denmark, Netherlands .
21. A lot of people performing these services are reliant on their jobs. I believe making this a public issue is damaging to their reputation and livelihoods. I believe sex work is no different from any other profession. I agree protections for workers are key to this policy and the most important aspect. A lot of the LGBT+ community make up lot

of those involved in this industry, their rights and dignity should be protected as best a possible. There is nothing shameful about sex work.

22. Must ensure that the exterior of the venues are discreet, so as not to impose on the public
23. It's reasonably thorough. But it should be compulsory for all to have a changing places bathroom as even disabled people have the right to experience adult entertainment
24. No, as long as the policy is upheld properly and infractions are dealt with with appropriate severity. It is important to ensure that the employees are protected and supported as much as possible
25. Sex shops and sex cinemas should be included in sexual entertainment.
26. No the licensing conditions appear satisfactory
27. The whole exercise seems like a lot of bureaucracy and meddling for no reason. Please just stick to the stay job and run the city to the best of your ability. This isn't puritan America.
28. No
29. INDUSTRY IS OVERRUN BY ROMANIAN CRIMINALS
30. No I agree with all safety precautions.
31. It is important to regulate and allow these spaces to exist the banning or reduction of SEV premises would potentially push sex workers into underground work such as illegal solicitation which is unregulated and potentially incredibly dangerous. Sex workers have a right to feel safe and have such workspaces that are licensed by organisations such as HSE, ACC and Police Scotland
32. This policy seeks to legitimise the sexualisation, objectification and exploitation of (predominantly) women. The council needs to take the ambitious step of ridding the city of sexual 'entertainment' and support those involved to less exploitative jobs/retraining. The very concept of 'Sexual entertainment' is outdated, misogynistic and deeply harmful, not just to the people directly involved, but to all women.
33. There is a failing to provide safeguarding against human trafficking in these venues. It is also widely ignored that illegal substances are sold and consumed in more than one of these premises.
34. They should all be closed down
35. The policy should be unnecessary past a total ban on all such venues
36. The violence against women strategy should include Transgender and Non Binary people as they also work within sexual establishments and are more likely to experience violence and aggression from customers. They are both over represented in the industry but overlooked within these strategies. This may also cause issues for creating and securing queer options for sexual entertainment in the city centre, as there is no policy in place to protect those individuals.
37. NO
38. Seems reasonable
39. I believe the city should have stricter policy, given these venues are known to attract specific behaviours, there's a clear surplus in license slots, the venues that do exist dominate a small area of town with their presence. If the city operates with one LGBT focused venue, I see no reason for more than one SEV, as these target a potentially even lower amount of consumers. The current location of some of these venues is also highly prominent and next to major travel links to the city, giving it a more 'grim' appearance to fresh tourists potentially. Furthermore, after working in one of these venues for a very short period myself, I don't believe the legislation is taken seriously - "These rules are just a suggestion, It's better to do what we want and then apologise, than to not do what we want" was a phrase I was told after voicing a

concern. One venue should be plenty, and will be easier to keep an eye on should negative situations occur.

40. I would even go as far as to legalise prostitution. The reality is that it is happening, but with no protection for the individuals providing the service. Was just reading a piece on people abusing universal credit and benefits. By legalising it like in Netherlands more control, tax and and safety can be introduced.
41. It is disgusting, immoral, sinful and dangerous to have these venues in operation. There should be NONE.
42. The proposal appears to cover off all the concerns, apart from the age limit. 18 year olds are not as mature as they once were, so 21 would be an additional protection of minors.
43. Much more important issues to be resolved and money spent on
44. There is no requirement for regular inspection and this needs to be in place, otherwise they should not be licensed. A lot of the women in the establishments appear to be from Eastern Europe and there is a likelihood of human trafficking. In order to employ the women there should be a process in place to ensure that the women have not been trafficked, there should have a list of the women which should be updated when a woman leave or enters employment and each woman should be interviewed by social work/police before being allowed to be employed to ensure they are not a victim of trafficking. The cost of these checks should be passed to the businesses.
45. No
46. Allow gentle touching between customer and performer. Online prostitutes allow full sex acts for sometimes less than the price of a dance at a sexual entertainment venue. This discourages customers from using these venues.
47. Would have thought 21 to be more appropriate before being allowed to perform
48. No - It is acceptable.
49. None
50. Not about policy. They are filthy. I mean hygiene not morals. Often connected to cocaine use and dealing. As well as other crimes. Of course verbal and physical abuse of women. Bar maids are encouraged to get into sexual entertainment.
51. Personally, I don't see any reason to have a Sexual Entertainment venue at all.
52. No
53. No
54. The policy is paradoxical. Women's safety is key to the policy, but the policy itself promotes activity where women deliberately make themselves personally very vulnerable. The policy needs to recognise the current climate where sex crime within and outwith consensual relationships is alarmingly increasing. Come on Aberdeen City Council: Be progressive, fight for woman, make a statement, be daring and do Aberdeen and it's residents a favour - Buck the trend!
55. Sexual entertainment Venues are okay as long as there are sufficient protections in place.
56. This is a totally unacceptable "business activity" in a modern, civilised society.
57. Why bother going to these premises??? if people do well up to them
58. They should all be closed and funds should be directed to aspects of the economy that need immediate and urgent interventions such as mental health, addiction control etc
59. Exploitation and Abuse of Workers Coercion or trafficking: Some workers may be victims of coercion or trafficking, especially foreign nationals. Lack of worker protections: Dancers are often treated as independent contractors, potentially limiting access to employment rights. Pressure to perform sexual acts: Despite regulations,

there can be pressure on performers to engage in illegal activity. 2. Links to Organised Crime or Illicit Activity Money laundering: Strip clubs have been known to be used for laundering criminal proceeds. Drug activity: There may be a higher risk of illegal drug use or sales on premises. Gang presence: Some clubs can attract or be controlled by local gangs. 3. Gender and Cultural Concerns Objectification of women: Critics argue strip clubs reinforce harmful stereotypes and the sexual objectification of women. Hostile environments: They may contribute to a culture where sexist or misogynistic behaviour is normalized. Cultural tension: In diverse communities, strip clubs can clash with local cultural or religious values. 4. Regulation and Policing Challenges Undercover crimes: Illegal activities can be hard to detect or prove. Licensing loopholes: Some clubs operate under loopholes (e.g. as "private members' clubs") to bypass restrictions. Strain on law enforcement: Regular monitoring can divert police and council resources. 5. Impact on Patrons Addiction and financial harm: Some patrons may develop compulsive spending behaviours. Mental health issues: Regular patronage may be linked with loneliness, addiction, or escapism.

60. my only concern is that there is no provisions of male performers. While I know there is no venue that provides this service as of yet, and there is no reason for that being prevented when taking the current publican and social norms have developed since 1982.
61. Attempting to police/regulate people who are immoral enough to be in this business practice is oxymoronic
62. Exploits young women. No sexual entertainment venues where men are used in the same way as young women. Leaves vulnerable women open to abuse and trafficking.
63. None
64. I don't propose closing existing SEV providers, but I would like them to 'wither away'. They encourage the trafficking of, and general abuse of women and probably discourage people from engaging with the 'night time economy'
65. The existing policy covers many of the issues which arise for residents living close to a sexual entertainment venue. However, I know that complaints can take months, even years, to get sorted. All council departments ought to be able to work together in order to swiftly deal with breaches of the policy.
66. Entry access to such venues should increase to 21. If the age of a driver who can monitor a learning driver is 21. It shows that it has been already observed that there is a higher sense of maturity in men and women whom are the age of 21. The age access to such premises ought to be to be increased. There is danger in giving such sexual access at a young age. Even though youngsters at the age are pushing for it. We should advocate for 18 year olds to invest in legit money making endeavours and sporting prowess.

**(Q8) Do you have any comments on the existing set of standard conditions attached to Sexual Entertainment Venue licences?**

1. No
2. No
3. As per previous response -these venues should not be permitted therefore there would be no need for the policy
4. None
5. What is the definition of a Stall?
6. No comment

7. No
8. All seem appropriate
9. No
10. No
11. These seem clear and appropriate. Enforcement should be straightforward
12. Fronts for money laundering
13. No
14. Na
15. I don't have any issue with them.
16. None
17. No
18. I reference back to my last point, sex shops are on the high street in grown up countries, Odense for example have the contents of the shop on view, it may be uncomfortable for parents but guess what sex is normal.
19. A review should be made in regards to these details using feedback from the workers themselves.
20. No
21. Conditions appear satisfactory
22. No
23. None
24. See previous comments
25. There should be a minimum of 2 security staff per 10 entertainers for their own safety
26. No
27. No
28. no
29. I find the legislation fair, no major issues - I just don't know how well it's being enforced or rather upheld in each premises.
30. I think clause 19 + 20 are a bit over the top, if a professional dancing act has happened and the person picks up their items and walks off stage it is a reasonable act to not first cover their top - apply some common sense here and remove this part. Number 20 is a bit vague, but almost implies one must pay for a personal viewing in a private place or dance area. I think this is silly as by entering the property you understand what you are going to see, I would say relax this, if people could earn more by say watering while \*\*\*\*\*, then why not as long as those people are protected and not touched inappropriately.
31. Limitation of number of people in the premises at any one time.
32. Waste of money
33. Section 18 should include that information provided to performers must be provided in the native language of the performer. Section 33 - list of performers should be required to be provided as performers are hired and be updated as required to police Scotland and/or officer of council.
34. It should be stipulated what kind of ID is acceptable and that police will be called if there is trouble and if there is sexual exploitation of under 18's
35. No – they are acceptable
36. None
37. It's funny how people under the influence of drugs should not be allowed entry. But it is known that drug users go to these places to buy cocaine.
38. A fee should apply if licence exceptions are requested. There should be personal at all doors at all times checking customer age
39. No
40. No

41. See previous response
42. None they are sufficient
43. This is just so inappropriate - it should be happening at all never mind being licensed by a local government organisation.
44. No
45. I do t kniw what these are
46. None
47. I think you can go further to make conditions for workers safer. Why do men need such facilities? Do you have the same facilities for LGBTQ or women? What culture and ethos do we want to promote in Aberdeen? More strip clubs = less family values
48. Require more evidence that human trafficking and modern slavery aren't involved
49. No, they seem to be quite well thought out.
50. Conditions are all good but enforcement may be an issue
51. The policy is quite comprehensive, but my concerns are around council departments being able to work collaboratively to deal with problem venues/staff.
52. Conditions attached are reasonable if there must be a venue. Which I totally disagree that there is a need for one. The only change is for the Entry admissions to such venues should increase from 18 to 21 year olds. If the age of a driver who can monitor a learning driver is 21. It shows that it has been already observed that there is a higher sense of maturity in men and women whom are the age of 21. The age access to such premises ought to be to be increased. There is danger in giving such sexual access at a young age. Even though youngsters at the age are pushing for it. We should advocate for 18 year olds to invest in legit money making endeavours and sporting prowess.

**(Q9) Would you like to make any other comments relating to the Sexual Entertainment Venue licensing policy?**

1. Those not operating as a strip club should not be licensed
2. Would no longer come to a town/city that had such venues
3. No
4. I feel like in 2025, we should have moved on from using humans as entertainment
5. The licensing committee should be ashamed of allowing, supporting or promoting such business
6. I think this form of adult entertainment should remain available as part of the variety of of adult entertainment on offer within the city.
7. No
8. Very sad to be thinking this is expanding
9. I think the consultation is unnecessary. I've not known these venues to cause anti social issues anymore than that pub and clubs do. If you want to be inclusive, include those who enjoy sexual entertainment
10. It's disgusting and outdated and should be removed.
11. I don't agree with any sexual entertainment venue which objectify woman
12. No
13. Consensual, passionate people who work at these places because they want to should not be put out of jobs, for some, its their main source of income - They are doing no harm, don't harm them.
14. I do not think SEV's should be allowed to operate in Aberdeen or Aberdeenshire, due to the reasons I outlined already in this questionnaire.

15. Just wrong, find a willing partner keep it to yourselves
16. Get rid of them all
17. Please do not allow any more venues in Aberdeen or Aberdeenshire as they are an outdated anachronism in today's world. They always have the reputation of being involved in the \*\*\*\*\* and \*\*\*\*\* trafficking industries and have no good role models for anyone to admire.
18. I think they should maximise the number of strip clubs to 2 as I completely agree woman should not be used to earn money and emotionally and verbally abused etc
19. In general these venues are not required. However, it is better to have regulated and licensed venues than 'underground ' venues where increased exploitation could occur
20. Do not issue any licences
21. No
22. Strip clubs harm community safety and go against the values of respect and dignity that we want to see in our city and towns. They encourage the objectification of woman and undermine healthy family environments, allowing exploitation and violence to grow.
23. I think there should be 0 venue, no need for this venue anywhere
24. As long as it is clearly licensed and operated properly there should not be any issues. If any venue is not operating correctly it should be closed immediately
25. These are demeaning to women, they harm relationships, and no good comes from them.
26. No think I have made in the report
27. None
28. I feel uncomfortable with the idea. I know it provides women with an income but in some aspect, it feels wrong for people to pay to see someone in a sexual manner
29. Keep it as low as possible and it should be very expensive as well so that the working conditions are all well above board, but also so that the business can be taxed more to help with matters such as sexual education etc.
30. If promoted in an adult way there shouldn't be any issues, by having it displayed the same as cigarettes in shops you are making it intriguing for undesirables, open it up and everyone knows what is going on.
31. As many performers and staff should be involved with this review as possible.
32. In this day and age, I feel they are not appropriate. A lot of known "under-the-table" acts go on there, and the law turns a blind eye. They are demeaning, often run-down eyesores also.
33. No
34. Disability inclusion training that's actually effective to be given to all staff and dancers
35. I think ensuring more safe spaces for sex workers to perform in is ultimately a good idea and could potentially help tackle the issues with exploitation they risk in the streets. I have no issues with this proposal, and frankly would go as far to support further moves in this direction (such as Australia's initiatives)
36. No. I feel if those venues are necessary, the licensing policy seems robust.
37. As above - leave businesses alone to get on with it. The fact that there are already only 4 premises operating under the current limit of 6 suggests that the provision is self limiting so stop wasting council time and money on yet more unnecessary bureaucracy.
38. No
39. SHUT THEM DOWN. DO NOT LEGITIMISE ROMANIAN SEXUAL TRAFFICKING AND LET MEN NOT GET EXPLOITED
40. Supply and demand should be the driver for the amount of venues.

41. Written rules must exist for PR staff and the promotion of clubs, PR staff are essential to clubs performance but there must be protection in place for those staff as they generally operate outwith a club. Additionally the license should identify a "host" who is separate to bar staff who is there to monitor sexual services provided and be focused on dancer welfare this "host" should have right of refusal on the premises and be allowed to instruct bar staff to cut off dancers access to alcohol additionally they should have a responsibility to make sure all dancers leave the venue safely.
42. There isn't a need for this outwith the main city centre and the number of these needs reduced
43. Be brave and get rid.
44. There is no place for continued promotion of women as second class citizens in this day and age
45. I think there needs to be SEV's for the woman who want to pursue this line of work to be able to do so safely
46. We are in the 21st Century, Aberdeen needs to catch up with the rest of Europe.
47. The violence against women strategy should include Transgender and Non Binary people as they also work within sexual establishments and are more likely to experience violence and aggression from customers. They are both over represented in the industry but overlooked within these strategies
48. I would not wish to see an increase in venues but as six are currently licences and only four in operation, I would like to see it at four max.
49. The only concern I have about these venues is that the people who work there are suitably protected and that there are systems in place to ensure this.
50. Most comments were made in prior response
51. I think it should become legal countrywide as it could be another source of income for many and also earn additional 'sin taxes' to our government. My opinion is to give people the choice and not nanny them as if they are babies needing to be controlled. Legalise it, tax it and ensure safety for this and prostitution.
52. It is harmful to women and girls. We all know it.
53. Prevention of kerb crawlers
54. There shouldn't be too many and especially not in city centre or any town centres. It makes the place look cheap and tacky to tourists.
55. There needs to be regular welfare checks on performers at these venues by either police or social work.
56. I think Aberdeen is too small for these types of venues. It attracts the worst kinds of patrons and is demeaning to women. They are not sexual objects to be desired by men. There is a danger of money laundering, crime via gangsters, sexual exploitation and unsafe city centre.
57. If it's good for the city and brings in business and income welcome them
58. Performers should be tested for substance abuse to ensure this is not habit feeding
59. No
60. None
61. No
62. Just to say Keep them far away from the city centre
63. Sexual entertainment is unstoppable online, sex and pornography are big sellers, but like gambling, drugs and alcohol they can be destructive and undermine lives, relationships, our City's values and those of Aberdeen City Council. The Council needs to be radical in its approach and adopt true zero tolerance by giving no licence which encourages sexually motivated crime. Sexual entertainment venues duty of care guidelines and policies should not be used as a mask for these businesses. If these places can't be situated beside a woman's refuge - they have no place in



Aberdeen. It is hypocrisy to teach our young people the unacceptability of inappropriate sexual behaviour towards women, while licensing sexual entertainment venues.

- 64. Leave it as it is, male or female strippers etc etc makes n difference to me
- 65. Very relaxing and no hassle most venues have very nice staff
- 66. It doesn't go far enough, and should also include so called massage parlours, staffed by modern day slaves.
- 67. None
- 68. Thank you to everyone on the committee who are doing their best to keep dancers safe.
- 69. N/A
- 70. SEV such as Private Eyes should relocate further away from schools - Gilcomstoun and Grammar. It's in the vicinity of residential flats.
- 71. The moral fabric of this society is already in tatters, don't put another nail in the coffin
- 72. none
- 73. Policy in general seems fine but would like to think no need for such establishments in 21st century Aberdeen. Since most seem congregated in the Bridge Street area I don't think they give a very good 'first impression' for visitors to the city.
- 74. The tendency for such venues to either congregate together in one area, or to tuck themselves away in back streets is, in my view, an unwholesome reality. These locations tend to be avoided by people who go out in the city centre for more mainstream activities in pubs and restaurants.
- 75. It is dangerously to the society and creates a safe haven for sexual predators to hide. There should be none in the city