

Received answer

1. Organisation name

None

2. Title

Mrs

3. Surname

Balaam

4. Forename

Deirdre



WAC 169

9. Permissions - I am responding as

Individual

10. Do you agree to your response being made available to the public (in Scottish Government library and/or on the Scottish Government web site)?

Yes

12. Please tick ONE of the following boxes

Yes, make my response and name available but not my address

14. We will share your responses internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for the Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

Yes

15. It would be helpful for our analysis if you could indicate which of the sectors you most align yourself/your organisation with the purpose of this consultation (please tick one)

Member of the general public.

17. Consultation Question 1: Do you believe that the exhibitions and performances required of wild animals in travelling circuses compromise respect for the animals concerned? Why?

Yes

18. Comments

Hundreds of cases of circus animal abuse have been pictorially and verbally documented of the unnatural and cruel habitats circus animals have to endure. No wonder they go mad, silently or raging. They are pitiful beings divorced from their natural habitat and made to act as robots for man's pleasure. Not respect.

19. Consultation Question 2: Do you believe that the exhibitions and performances required of wild animals in travelling circuses have an adverse impact on the development of respectful and responsible attitudes towards animals in children and young people? Why

Yes

20. Comments

It is probably well known that ill-treatment of animals leads to ill-treatment of humans, especially of children. It is well known enough that circuses ill-treat their animals. Is that 'responsible' education for the young - to make a cruelly obtained laughing stock of a once-dignified animal? I think not.

21. Consultation Question 3: Do you consider that concerns relating to respect for animals could be resolved without banning the use of wild animals in travelling circuses. If so how?

No

22. Comments

The vile training and habitats of circus animals ipso facto precludes respect for the circus, not the animals, which should be seen in their own habitat with their own kind. The pathetic animals gain pity.

23. Consultation Question 4: Do you believe that the ability of none, some, or all wild animals to undertake natural behaviours are compromised within the travelling circus environment? Which species? Which needs? Why?

None

24. Comments

As above-mentioned, ALL animals need their natural habitats, time to live, time with their like companions for socialising, communication. There is nothing so pitiful as seeing them shut up in cages, or in box cars being transported hither and thither. No place to call home, no one to call your own.

25. Consultation Question 5: Do you consider that it is possible to facilitate the natural behaviour of none, some, or all wild animals within the travelling circus environment? Which species? How?

None

26. Comments

The very fact that these animals have been captured and been through probably many hands has disrupted their life. Some (unsure what percentage is) have been torn from their mother under dire circumstances. Some with their mother have seen the mother abused to the point of the young sobbing, a dreadful sight to see. How can you facilitate natural behaviour in a circus, for heaven's sake?

27. Consultation Question 6: Do you consider that the concerns raised surrounding the travelling environment could be resolved without banning the use of wild animals in travelling circuses? How?

No

28. Comments

A circus environment is unnatural. Full stop.

29. Consultation Question 7: Do you consider that there are any benefits to be gained from having wild animals in travelling circuses? What are they?

No

30. Comments

Nary a one.

31. Consultation Question 8: Do you believe that there are sufficient benefits to justify the potential compromise to the wider well-being of wild animals kept in the travelling circus? Why?

No

32. Comments

None.

33. Consultation Question 9: Do you consider that the potential conflict between compromising the well-being of wild animals and obtaining any benefit could be resolved without banning the use of wild animals in travelling circuses. If so how?

No

36. Number in last 5 years

I have no idea.

37. Number in last 12 months

?

38. Don't Know

Don't know

40. Consultation Question 11: What effect do you think a ban on the use and exhibition of wild animals would have on the revenue of such circuses? Why?

Increase

41. Comments

There are many circuses now which do not have animals performing, and they do well. For heaven's sake, there are magical MEN and WOMEN performers who make audiences gasp at their stunts. Have Bolivia and Greece been at a loss re circuses (they have banned ALL animals, and good for them).

42. Consultation Question 12: If a ban on the use and exhibition of wild animals was imposed, do you think that such circuses would still visit Scotland without the wild animals? Why?

Yes

43. Comments

There is still money to be made, and they need a variety of locations - the more the, the more profitable.

44. Consultation Question 13: What effect do you think a ban on the use and exhibition of wild animals in travelling circuses would have on the revenue of other types of circuses (e.g. static or those travelling without wild animals)? Why?

Increase

45. Comments

The people who avoid going to circuses with animals would now go to those without.

46. Consultation Question 14: What effect do you think a ban on the use and exhibition of wild animals in travelling circuses would have on the revenue of circus venues? Why?

Don't know

48. Consultation Question 15: Do you consider that a ban on wild animals in travelling circuses could have an impact on other industries? If so, which industries, what would be the effect and why?

Film

- Positive impact

TV - drama

- Positive impact

TV - documentary

- Don't know

TV - childrens

- Positive impact

Advertising - TV

- Positive impact

Advertising - other

- Positive impact

Other

- Don't know

Other

- Don't know

Other

- Don't know

49. Comments

The media would willingly advertise such circuses, especially if they had good acts - and that is the nub.

50. Consultation Question 16: Do you agree that the use of wild animals for performance in travelling circuses should be banned in Scotland? Why?

Yes

51. Comments

I've already stated why, generally. For Scotland in particular I regard Scotland as forward-looking and innovative and daring(!) as well as merciful and with every intention of educating young and old to hold proper and merciful attitudes, eg not to support cruelty and unnatural tastes, if I can put it that way.

52. Consultation Question 17: Do you agree that the use of wild animals for exhibition in travelling circuses should be banned in Scotland? Why?

Yes

53. Comments

I think I've made myself clear in the comments above: on display in circuses with animals is the result of cruelty from beginning to end, and causing animals to be regarded as 'things'. They are living beings in their own world when we humans leave them be - a beautiful strange and somehow magical little world. We have not yet discovered how magical they are in their natural surroundings, but stupidly try to make them 'entertainment'. Crass.

54. Consultation Question 18: Do you consider that any ban should be a blanket ban on all wild animals in travelling circuses? Why?

Yes

55. Comments

Why do anything by halves? A gap can spread.

56. Consultation Question 19: Do you consider that any specific species of animal not commonly domesticated in the British Islands should be permitted to be used in travelling circuses in Scotland? If so, which species and why?

No

59. Comments

If a blanket ban cannot be achieved (although others have achieved it so I just don't see why Scotland cannot do so) there is no species that should be exempt from such a ban except the jumping flea. That I grant. I cannot choose any other. Scotland will be an enormous disappointment world wide if it cannot manage to extricate itself from damnable exploitation.

60. Consultation Question 21: Do you have any other comments on whether/how the use of wild animals in travelling circuses should be banned from Scotland?

No

62. Consultation Question 22: Do you consider that the consultation paper explained the key issues sufficiently for you to properly consider your responses?

No

63. Comments

The ban should be on ALL animals, not just wild ones - how do you define 'wild'? Aren't ALL animals wild? Do we really know their natures, wishes, dislikes? No. IF we could communicate with them and they told you of their sorrows in circuses, would you THEN ban their use in circuses, or keep them enslaved? Why?

64. Consultation Question 23: Do you consider that you had sufficient time to respond to the consultation?

Yes

65. Comments

Thank you for the time allowed, it was gracious.

66. Consultation Question 24: Do you have any other comments on the way this consultation has been conducted?

No

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