

Received answer

2. Title

Mr

3. Surname

Bryant

4. Forename

John

5. Postal Address

6 Royal Avenue, Tonbridge. Kent

6. Postcode

TN9 2DA

7. Phone Number

8.

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, name and address all available

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)

Other

16. If 'Other' please specify

professional wildlife consultant

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

Wild animals cannot be trained with sugar-lumps and 'treats'. It is well-documented that training wild animals to perform 'tricks' frequently and regularly to commands, involves them learning that failure or rebellion brings pain or punishment. Circuses also perpetuate the concept of exploitation of animals for human entertainment purposes and have no other value.

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

See previous comments.

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

Whether circuses are travelling or static, the wild animals have no freedom to indulge in their natural behaviour. They are either being trained to indulge in unnatural behaviour, or are caged or tethered, or are travelling in wagons for hours.

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?

All

24. Comments

Living in cages and wagons, being trained and forced to behave in unnatural ways means that they can never experience their birth-right of a natural wild environment with their own kind.

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

Cages, vehicles, fumes, shouts, whips, crowds, noise - makes any natural behaviour impossible.

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

See previous comments

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

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

There are no benefits for the animals or for human beings.

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

34. Comments

There is no benefits to people from watching wild animals behaving abnormally in abnormal environments.

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?

Decrease

41. Comments

Hopefully they will be forced to surrender their animals to compassionate wildlife experts for either a peaceful retirement or perhaps in some cases rehabilitation to their native and natural environments.

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?

WAC 1695

Yes

## 43. Comments

There is no reason they could not utilise human performers.

## 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?

Don't know

## 45. Comments

Static circuses with animal acts should also be outlawed, but circuses with comedy, acrobatic and other innovations could begin a new era of local community live entertainment.

## 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

- No impact

TV - drama

- No impact

TV - documentary

- No impact

TV - childrens

- No impact

Advertising - TV

- No impact

Advertising - other

- No impact

## 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

## 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

## 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

Carting animals around the country in cages deprives wild animals of a reasonable life and gawping at miserable animals performing unnatural tricks is of no educational value to people.

## 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

## 58. Consultation Question 20: Do you consider that there are key species that should be covered by a ban in the event that a blanket ban could not be achieved? If so, which species and why?

Yes

## 59. Comments

I think there should be a blanket ban on all wild animals - especially elephants, big cats and any animals which in the wild travel long distances. However, trained animal welfare inspectors should be able to visit circuses at any time without notice to inspect living conditions and training and to immediately suspend either acts or exhibitions involving wild or domestic animals acts, in the event of finding unacceptable practices.

## 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?

Yes

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

Yes

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

No

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