



Call for Evidence on the Planning (Scotland) Bill

Agent of Change

1. UK Music is the umbrella body representing the collective interests of the UK's commercial music industry, from songwriters and composers to artists and musicians, studio producers, music managers, music publishers, major and independent record labels, music licensing companies and the live music sector.
2. UK Music exists to represent the UK's commercial music sector, to drive economic growth and promote the benefits of music to British society. A full list of UK Music members can be found in annex.

The UK Music Industry

3. The UK creative industries are of huge economic and cultural importance. According to the most recent DCMS economic estimates the creative industries account for £91.8 billion in GVA.¹
4. The UK creative industries also lead the world in terms of soft power. The reach and volume of our national cultural output supports our strength in soft power. According to The Soft Power 30, the UK is second to the US in terms of cultural soft power.
5. The UK is a world leading music industry. The sector contributed £4.4 billion to the economy in 2016, growing by 6 per cent.² The UK is the home to diverse and innovative music companies and creators that support this growth. Their endeavours form part of a dynamic ecosystem that is consistently delivering for music fans and consumers. The music industry generates exports of £2.5 billion and employs 142,208 people.

Scotland

6. Live music makes an important contribution to the Scottish economy. UK Music's 2017 Wish You Were Here Report, has shown that £334 million of revenue was generated from music tourism in 2016 – a 13 per cent increase since 2015. In addition there was a 31 per cent surge in music tourists as 1.2 million visitors went to live music events in

¹https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/662958/DCMS_Sectors_Economic_Estimates_2016_GVA.pdf

² <https://www.ukmusic.org/research/measuring-music-2017/>

Scotland. In terms of employment figures, live music events also supported 3,928 jobs in the region.³

Agent of Change

7. UK Music welcomes the introduction of the Planning (Scotland) Bill. The Bill presents an opportunity to create a framework to support music venues within the planning system. UK Music recommends that an amendment be tabled to insert the agent of change principle within the Bill.
8. Despite an overall strong economic picture, smaller grassroots venues are finding it increasingly difficult to operate. In the past ten years the sector has seen a decline of 35 per cent in the total number of grassroots music venues trading in the UK. UK Music's 2017 *Wish You Were Here* report showed a 13 per cent drop in the level of direct spending at smaller music venues - those with capacity of under 1,500 - in 2016 and a 21 per cent fall in the number of overseas visitors to smaller venues. Scotland has a proud history of music and its thriving live music scene is world renowned. From King Tuts in Glasgow where Oasis was discovered to Sneaky Petes in Edinburgh, it provides an economic and social boost to the local population. Scotland has already lost a number of much-loved grassroots venues including the HMV Picture house in Edinburgh and so now is the time to take action.
9. A growth in demand for property across the UK has led to a competitive residential market with rising rents and more landlords selling their property and land to developers. This has placed rising financial burdens on pre-existing operators of grassroots music venues, who are often situated in areas that are popular for redevelopment, and made them vulnerable to a more liberalised planning system.
10. "Agent of change" means those bringing about a change take responsibility for its impact. If new developments are to be introduced near pre-existing businesses the "agent of change" principle places the onus on the developer to ensure solutions are put in place to mitigate any adverse impacts on existing businesses from the new development. For example, new residential accommodation may increase the likelihood of noise complaints that threaten a music venue business. The "agent of change" principle would require those responsible for the new residential accommodation to put measures in place to allow venues to continue to operate and co-exist, such as sound-proofing.
11. The Mayor of London Sadiq Khan has included an "agent of change" rule into his draft London Plan. In May 2017 Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary Lesley Griffiths AM announced that she intends to revise Welsh national planning policy to include an explicit reference to the "agent of change" principle. The Cabinet Secretary will also update Planning Policy Wales to allow the designation of areas of cultural significance for music through development plans.
12. In January 2017, following a campaign spearheaded by organisations including UK Music and the Music Venues Trust, the UK Government announced that The National Planning Policy Framework, which local authorities are legally bound to comply with, will now be clarified to include detailed reference to the 'Agent of Change' principle, and will be consulted on later this year. This followed the introduction of a Private Members Bill, the Planning (Agent of Change) Bill by John Spellar MP to Parliament on 10 January. UK Music organised a very successful lobby of Parliament to coincide with the

³ <https://www.ukmusic.org/research/music-tourism-wish-you-were-here-2017/>

introduction of this Bill which was attended by over 100 cross-party politicians and leading music industry names including Nick Mason (Pink Floyd), Billy Bragg and Sandie Shaw.

13. It is vital that the Scottish Government places the principle on a statutory footing in order to secure the future of Scotland's cultural hubs. This will be an important part of strengthening the Scottish Planning Policy to provide more influence over planning decisions.

Annex

UK Music's membership comprises of:-

- AIM – Association of Independent Music - representing over 850 small and medium sized independent music companies.
- BASCA - British Academy of Songwriters, Composers and Authors – BASCA is the membership association for music writers and exists to support and protect the professional interests of songwriters, lyricists and composers of all genres of music and to celebrate and encourage excellence in British music writing.
- BPI - the trade body of the recorded music industry representing 3 major record labels and over 300 independent record labels.
- FAC – The Featured Artists Coalition represents and promotes the interests of featured recording artists in the music industry.
- MMF – Music Managers Forum - representing over 500 UK managers of artists, songwriters and producers across the music industry with global businesses.
- MPG - Music Producers Guild - representing and promoting the interests of all those involved in the production of recorded music – including producers, engineers, mixers, re-mixers, programmers and mastering engineers.
- MPA - Music Publishers Association - with 260 major and independent music publishers in membership, representing close to 4,000 catalogues across all genres of music.
- Musicians' Union representing 30,000 musicians.
- PPL is the music licensing company which works on behalf of over 90,000 record companies and performers to license recorded music played in public (at pubs, nightclubs, restaurants, shops, offices and many other business types) and broadcast (TV and radio) in the UK.
- *PRS for Music* is responsible for the collective licensing of rights in the musical works of 114,000 composers, songwriters and publishers and an international repertoire of 10 million songs.
- UK Live Music Group, representing the main trade associations and representative bodies of the live music sector

For more information please contact Felicity Oliver, Public Affairs Officer, UK Music on felicity.oliver@ukmusic.org or 020 3713 8454.