

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT – PROVISIONS FOR REGULATING SEX ESTABLISHMENTS

In accordance with the 2010 Equality Act, this report has considered the equality impact of the proposal as follows:

Race:

No impact identified

The Welsh Language:

No impact identified

Disability:

No impact identified

Gender:

Positive impact identified. In general, women would account for the majority of performing workers in sex entertainment premises. The licensing procedure will mean that these establishments are regulated, which will assist to tackle any immoral or illegal employment practices (e.g. modern slavery), that this cohort of workers would be more likely to be exposed to in these posts.

Age:

Positive impact identified. In general, young adults would be most likely to work as performers in sex entertainment premises. The licensing procedure will mean that these establishments are regulated, which will assist to tackle any immoral or illegal employment practices (e.g. modern slavery), that this cohort of workers would be more likely to be exposed to in these posts. In addition, a licensing procedure will enable the Licensing Authority to prevent such establishments in sensitive locations (e.g. near schools), thus helping to protect children from harm.

Sexual orientation:

No impact identified.

Religion or belief:

Positive impact identified. A licensing procedure will enable the Licensing Authority to prevent such establishments in sensitive locations (e.g. near places of worship), thus helping to reduce a detrimental impact on the religious practices of individuals.

Gender reassignment:

No impact identified.

Pregnancy and maternity:

No impact identified.

Marriage and civil partnership:

No impact identified.

The proposal will give the Licensing Authority an opportunity to promote equal opportunities and the socio-economic duty, by establishing a procedure where establishments are regulated and have to operate lawfully.

As no negative impact has been identified, it is recommended to proceed with the proposal. However, this equality assessment will be reviewed and updated following the consultation and before the matter is referred to this Committee for the second time.

Well-being:

In accordance with the recommendations of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, this report has considered the principles of the legislation, and specifically the concept of the five ways of working as shown below:

Long term - Once a decision is made to adopt, a permanent procedure will be in place that will enable the licensing and regulation of sex establishments across the county. In the long term, this will contribute to the responsible planning of such establishments, and thus contribute to more responsible attitudes and respect towards the protection of our communities and an understanding of the need to consider the impact on others.

Prevent - Adoption will enable the Council to keep control of establishments of this nature, helping to prevent any social harm deriving from them or activities that would enable modern slavery.

Integration - The consultation process addresses the features of a number of organisations (Gwynedd Council, the Police, community and town councils, the county's residents in general, the sex establishment industry). It will also contribute towards the objectives of the Police in terms of tackling modern slavery and the Council's ambition of seeing communities that succeed and thrive.

Collaboration - Any decision to adopt would be as a result of a consultation with the above.

Inclusion - A public consultation will take place before a final decision is made on the matter.

This equality assessment will be reviewed and updated following the consultation and before the matter is referred to this Committee for the second time.