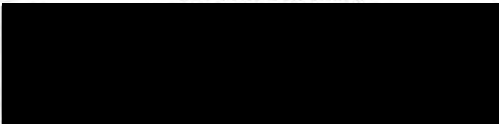


WAC 525

Received answer

1. Organisation name
Bear Rescue Group (Bolton)



5. Postal Address
17 Reddish Close
Bolton
Lancs.

6. Postcode
BL2 4BT

7. Phone Number



9. Permissions - I am responding as
Group/Organisation

13. The name and address of your organisation WILL BE made available to the public (In the Scottish Government library and/or on the Scottish Government web site). Are you content for your response to be made available

Yes

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)

Animal welfare organisation

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

It is a fact that animals in circuses are living in a totally artificial and alien environment. Trained to perform in ways which are not natural to them and transported at the whim of their owners. Seeing animals in such circumstances gives people (children in particular) a totally false concept of animal life.

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

Children are developing their attitude to many things in life until their teens and later. To see animals purely as a means of entertainment and there purely for the amusement of humans gives children the wrong message where animal welfare is concerned.

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

No, definitely not. With all the will in the world animals would still be vulnerable to abuse and ill treatment.

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

Wild animals are wild animals. Speaks for itself really.

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 whole idea of having wild animals in circuses is now fit only to be consigned to history. If it continues to be allowed then who is to say that the whole exploitation will not expand or worsen.

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 above

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

It could have been argued 100 years ago that as peoples' experience and knowledge of animals was limited, then the showing of animals educated some. However, now that most people will have a good knowledge of the origin, description and habitat of most animals this slender point is no longer valid.

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?

Don't know

32. Comments

The question is unclear.

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

Any compromise will be achieved only at the expense of animals.

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

There is an attraction without doubt. So initially a drop in revenue could be expected. But there are many fine circuses which thrive and which do not use animals at all.

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

Other attractions would come to the fore to replace animal acts.

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?

No Change

45. Comments

Why would it make any difference

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?

No change

47. Comments

Ultimately no difference.

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

Advertising - TV

No impact

Advertising - other

No impact

Other

No impact

Other

No impact

Other

No impact

49. Comments

It is very unlikely that such a ban would have any effect on any industry. If it did, then this is a price worth paying.

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

Animal trained to perform are inevitably under stress. Exploitation of animals to line peoples' pockets is immoral.

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

Keeping animals in zoos is bad enough, but constantly moving them to different venues for exhibition is even worse. Cramped, alien surrounding are not the place for animals.

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

Anything else a 'compromise' would be at the expense of the animals and would be open to abuse

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?

Yes

57. Comments

Unquestionable, 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?

No

59. Comments

There is no doubt that a blanket ban is the ONLY solution.

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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