



Home Office

Alan Campbell MP
PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF
www.homeoffice.gov.uk

Caroline Lucas MEP
Suite 58
The Hop Exchange
24 Southwark Street
London
SE1 1TY
UK

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Dear Caroline,

I am writing to thank you for responding to the recent consultation on the transitional arrangements for the lap dancing provisions in the Policing and Crime Act 2009 and let you know the results of the consultation were published by the Home Office today.

The consultation received 154 responses from a variety of sources including local authorities, club operators, club employees, third sector organisations and members of the public. In general, the proposals were strongly supported by the majority of respondents, but were heavily opposed by club operators and employees.

Significantly, a majority of respondents felt that existing operators should be required to apply for a new sex establishment licence in the same way as new applicants in those areas where the provisions are adopted by local authorities. The proposals to commence the provisions in April and provide a 12 month transitional period were also well supported by most respondents apart from club operators and club employees who felt that these proposals would put businesses and jobs at risk and not give industry enough time to prepare for the new regime.

In light of the majority view expressed in the consultation responses the Government has decided to adopt the proposals as set out in the consultation document with only minor changes.

The Government response to the consultation can be found on the Home Office website:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/cons-2009-sev/index.html>

I know that you have expressed a keen interest in this issue and I hope you will welcome the Government's proposals.

Yours,

Alan Campbell

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