



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

CALL FOR EVIDENCE: LASER POINTERS

A call for evidence on the market, and
potential uses, for laser pointers

August 2017

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The Call for Evidence can be found on the BEIS section of GOV.UK:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/laser-pointers-call-for-evidence>

call for evidence: laser pointers

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Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at lasers@beis.gov.uk.

Contents

General information	5
Purpose of this consultation	5
Territorial extent:	5
How to respond:	5
Confidentiality and data protection:	5
1. The nature of the problem	6
2. Legitimate uses and power levels	8
3. Specific problem of power and measurement	9
4. Policy options under consideration	10
Annex A: The current market and availability of laser pointers	11
Annex B: Risks of laser pointers	13
Annex C: Existing legislation	15
Annex D: Regimes in some other countries	17
Annex E: Response Form	19

General information

Purpose of this Call for Evidence

The Government is issuing this Call for Evidence so that it can gather data and information on the market for laser pointers, and how they are used.

Issued: 12 August 2017

Respond by: 6 October 2017

Enquiries to:

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Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy,
1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET
Tel: 0207 215 2882

Email: lasers@beis.gov.uk

Territorial extent:

UK-wide

How to respond

Your response will be most useful if it is framed in direct response to the questions posed, though further comments and evidence are also welcome. Please send your responses to Lara Godden at the address above.

Additional copies:

You may make copies of this document without seeking permission. An electronic version can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/laser-pointers-call-for-evidence>

Confidentiality and data protection

Information provided in response to this call for evidence including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the access to information legislation (primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004).

If you want information that you provide to be treated as confidential please say so clearly in writing when you send your response to the consultation. It would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded by us as a confidentiality request.

We will summarise all responses and place this summary on the [GOV.UK website](#). This summary will include a list of names or organisations that responded but not people's personal names, addresses or other contact details.

1. Nature of the problem

- 1.1 The Government is issuing this Call for Evidence so that it can gather data and information on the market for laser pointers, and how they are used.
- 1.2 Laser pointers¹ are generally small battery-operated hand-held devices that emit a tightly focused beam of light that is concentrated into a very small area, even over long distances. Lasers can come in a variety of designs, emitting different coloured laser beams and at varying powers. Laser pointers were originally developed to help presenters point out key features on a screen (hence the term laser pointer). Although the total power in the laser beam may be small (a few milliwatts (mWs)), concentrating this power onto a tiny spot, for example in the eye, creates a point of very high intensity.
- 1.3 High strength laser pointers – those with a strength of more than 5mW - are easy to make, obtain and use. Shining a laser pointer can be fun and many users have good intentions. However the Government is concerned that, in recent years, there have been an increased number of reported incidents of the deliberate misuse of laser pointers with consequences which could have been fatal – examples include shining laser beams into the cockpits of aircraft as they take off and land and young children suffering permanent eye damage as the result of having beams from ‘toy’ pointers shone directly into their eyes; a UK survey of ophthalmologists reported 159 incidents of eye injuries since 2013, mainly affecting young children.
- 1.4 The safety of consumers and enabling businesses to trade are Government priorities. As there is not one action that the Government could take to deal with this issue the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, the Home Office and the Department for Transport are working together to consider what action the Government should take to tackle this problem.
- 1.5 The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy – the Government Department responsible for product safety - is considering whether further measures, for example restrictions on advertising, greater awareness raising, and introducing controls relating to the supply, ownership and/or use of laser pointers would help tackle the problem.
- 1.7 Before the Government can decide what, if any, actions it could take it needs better evidence to fully understand what impact any measures might have on businesses, enforcement bodies and the general public. It also needs to understand what other implications there might be if changes, such as strengthening the legal framework for laser pointers, were introduced.

¹ The term “laser pointer” is often used interchangeably with the term “laser pen” but for consistency the term “laser pointer” has been used throughout.

Questions:

- 1: **What do you consider to be the scale of the problem with laser pointers? Is the problem specific to high-powered laser pointers (those with a strength of 5 mW or above), or a particular class of laser pointers? What evidence do you have to support your view?**
- 2: **How well do you think the current legislation is working? Is the current guidance² on safe use of laser products sufficient?**
- 3: **Is the current guidance on manufacturing and importing laser pointers sufficient?**
- 4: **Do you have any further evidence about the nature and misuse of laser pointers?**

² Current guidance is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/laser-radiation-safety-advice/laser-radiation-safety-advice#lasers>

2. Legitimate uses and relevant power levels

- 2.1 Any Government action will be targeted at ensuring that only laser pointers which are safe can be obtained and used by the public. The current legislation which applies to laser pointers says that only laser pointers that are considered safe for general use should be made available to the public through general sale³. It is an offence for manufacturers to market or supply dangerous products to consumers. Nevertheless they are very easy to obtain.
- 2.2 There may be many legitimate reasons why consumers would buy a laser pointer. For example:
- Some people, for example lecturers/teachers, may use a low-powered laser pointer as a presentation aid;
 - Members of astronomy societies sometimes use high-power laser pointers as aiming devices or to point out astronomical objects;
 - Surveyors and people in the building trade use laser pointers to accurately measure distance and level;
 - People use high-power laser pointers for scientific, research, or industrial purposes;
 - High-power laser pointer devices can be used at airports and in agriculture to scare away birds and;
 - Sailors are increasingly likely to hold laser flares (electronic Visual Distress Signal), as a way to attract attention in case of an emergency.
- 2.3 The majority of people use laser pointers safely and for legitimate purposes. However because they are easy to obtain it is still possible for individuals to sell, purchase and use them with unintended consequences (for example a user might not realise that they have bought a high-powered laser pointer and accidentally shine the laser beam from it into someone's eyes), or with more malicious intent (for example to point it into the cockpit of an aircraft).

Questions:

- 5: What legitimate uses are there for high-powered laser pointers?**
- 6: Have you ever purchased, sold or made a laser pointer? If so, can you provide more information about where you bought or sold the product (or its component parts), and what the intended use was?**
- 7: (Enforcement Bodies) Do you know/can you estimate the number of manufacturers, retailers, importers and/or distributors within your Local Authority area?**

³ General Product Safety Regulations 2005

3. Specific problem of power and measurement

- 3.1 Laser pointers come in a range of strengths. This is measured in milliwatts (mW). Until a few years ago, only low-power hand-held, battery-operated laser pointers were available in the United Kingdom. Due to recent advances in technology and manufacturing the Government believes that high-powered laser pointers are now readily available at low cost but is seeking more robust evidence on this.
- 3.2 As a guide, the relationship between the power output and the potential harm it can cause is as follows:
- **Up to and including 1 mW (Class 2)** - Very low-risk (eye aversion response should protect eyes) – it may still cause dazzle, glare and after images at this power
 - **Greater than 1 and up to 5 mW (Class 3R)** - Low-risk - it could potentially cause some harm to the eye (e.g. if shone into eyes from a short distance for a long time or the individual deliberately stares into the beam).
 - **Up to 500 mW (Class 3B)** -Not suitable for general use by consumers - it may have sufficient power to cause an eye injury, both from the direct beam and from reflections. The higher the power output of the device the greater the risk of injury. Class 3B lasers are considered hazardous to the eye. However, the extent and severity of any eye injury will depend on several factors including the radiant power entering the eye and the duration of the exposure.
 - **Greater than 500 mW (Class 4)** - Not suitable for use by the general public –it will burn skin and cause permanent eye damage if targeted. It may also cause fires.
- 3.3 The Government is keen to gather further evidence on the size of the market for laser pointers and on how they are being used so that it can better understand the potential impacts on businesses and consumer choice, and so that any action that it decides to take is proportionate.

Questions:

- 8: **What strength laser pointers do you make/sell? What is the price of each strength laser pointer that you make/sell? Is this a seasonal product (e.g. do you sell more at Christmas)? How many do you sell annually?**
- 9: **What is your target market?**

4. Policy options under consideration

4.1 Any action the Government might take must be proportionate to the risks and should focus on protecting consumers and users of vehicles from the misuse of laser pointers, while offering a fair and level playing field to business. This section sets out some potential options which the Government could consider to tackle the issue.

4.2 For example, the Government may consider:

(i) Licensing arrangements

Schemes for licensing (of what and who may use or purchase laser pointers) already exist in countries such as New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Sweden and the United States of America (further details are provided at Annex D). The Government might consider a licensing system where an importer, retailer, or consumer must apply for and obtain a licence for a high-powered laser pointer which they intend to sell or buy. This may or may not be chargeable, and could include criteria relating to training or insurance.

(ii) Restrictions on advertising.

This may include banning the advertising of high-powered laser pointers only, or it may include banning the advertising of **all** laser pointers.

(ii) Awareness-raising.

This may include targeted or general campaigns, for example on social media, to target specific groups of people.

4.3 One of the options that the Government is considering is closer regulation. Were the Government to pursue such an option – for example if the importation, sale and supply of high powered laser pointers was to be controlled through a system of licensing sellers or purchasers - the system would need to deter those who flout the existing requirements without imposing disproportionate costs on businesses that currently invest in compliance.

4.4 In addition enforcement bodies may consider that a licence would be a helpful way of identifying legitimate traders; however they might consider that the additional checks they may need to perform to be disproportionate to the risk presented by the products. Further, while a licensing regime may offer the Government more control, it is difficult to accurately estimate the resources it would need to administer a system of licensing and whether this would be a proportionate action to take.

4.5 The Government also anticipates that respondents will want to offer broader suggestions and ideas on whether and how to restrict the availability of laser pointers in the UK. For example, respondents may have ideas on how public awareness of the potential dangers of laser pointers could be improved. In addition to suggestions and

ideas, clear evidence that respondents supply will help the Government to reach a decision on the most appropriate course of action.

Questions:

- 10: (If you are an enforcement authority) Have you undertaken any enforcement actions with respect to laser pointers, and if so what were they?**
- 11: (If you are an enforcement authority) What do you estimate as being the level of compliance with the General Product Safety Regulations for laser pointers in your area? On what evidence do you base this?**
- 12: Do you think a licensing system to control the sale and purchase of laser pointers would be effective?**
- 13: What do you estimate the costs of implementing a licensing system to be? How should these be recovered?**
- 14: How might a licensing regime operate? Who should administer a licensing system? Who should enforce it?**
- 15: Are you aware of any other licensing systems in the UK or in other countries – either for laser pointers or for similar products - which might provide the Government with a useful comparison?**
- 16: Do you think that a ban on advertising laser pointers would be effective? Why?**
- 17: How else might Government and other public authorities increase public awareness about the potential dangers of laser pointers?**
- 18: How else do you think that the supply of high-powered laser pointers could be restricted? Why?**
- 19: Do you have any other comments or views which might inform the Government's recommendations?**

Annex A: The Current Market and Availability of Laser Pointers

Laser pointers are considered to comply with the legislation if the product is safe to be used under “normal or reasonably foreseeable conditions of use”⁴. Laser pointers with a strength of 1 mW or less are very low-risk and are considered safe to be sold to the public. However even at this low level laser pointers can cause dazzle, glare and after-images.

There are some specialist uses for laser pointers of a strength between 1 mW and 5mW, which are on sale legally because they are being sold for a specific purpose - for example a distance-measuring device of around 2 mW can readily be purchased from a builder’s merchant.

High-strength laser pointers (above 5 mW) are generally accepted to have limited uses by the public and are not considered suitable for sale to the general public. Evidence suggests they are currently available to purchase online and at some technology stores; they are also available on market stalls and may be incorrectly labelled as being less than 5 mW in strength.

Laser pointers are readily available within the UK and from sellers overseas via the internet, high street shops and markets. They are also easy to buy abroad and bring back to the UK. If high-powered laser pointers are marketed for general use Local Authority Trading Standards officers have existing powers to require these products to be removed from the market.

The Government’s access to hard data on the laser pointer market is currently limited. One way the Government can gather information on products is through “tariff codes”. However the tariff code that includes laser pointers covers a broad range of products and it is not possible to filter this information so that it is specific only to laser pointers. The relevant tariff code 90132000 for “Electronics and Video Games; Other Electronics; Laser Pointers” indicates there are 198 importers and 107 exporters of such products in the UK. They imported around £70 million worth of products in this category last calendar year. The UK exported £200 million worth of goods.

These figures do not take into account products that are ordered directly from manufacturers or economic operators who make and sell these products solely within the UK. It also does not take account of imports of laser pointers not declared as such (for example a key ring with a laser pointer which is declared as a toy).

⁴ General Product Safety Regulations (2005)

Annex B: Risks of Laser Pointers

There are two main risks from high-power laser pointers:

- Owners and users may not be aware of the potential harm that laser pointers can cause and may deliberately or inadvertently shine the beam into their own or other people's eyes without understanding that this could cause retinal damage. To consumers these may be considered to be harmless toys, similar in nature to torches.

A UK survey of ophthalmologists reported 159 incidents of eye injuries since 2013, mainly affecting young children.

- People could maliciously (or ignorantly) shine the beam at vehicles such as aircraft and dazzle or distract the pilot (or person controlling the vehicle). Even when shone from a distance of several hundred metres, the beam from a high powered laser pointer can dazzle and cause temporary flash blindness, especially at night.

Distracting or dazzling a pilot is a serious aviation safety risk, particularly during critical phases of flight such as take-off and landing. A number of these cases have attracted media attention, for example in February 2016, a Virgin Atlantic flight from London to New York returned to Heathrow Airport as a precautionary measure due to a laser pointer incident. In November 2016 there was a report that the beam from a laser pointer was shone into the eyes of a Wales Air Ambulance helicopter pilot, causing temporary blindness that could have resulted in catastrophic consequences. The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) state that since 2010 there have been around 1,500 aviation incidents reported each year in the UK. Car, lorry drivers and ship crews are also at risk. For transport, the most serious risk from the malicious use of laser pointers is an aviation, road, rail or maritime related accident. A single accident as a result of exposure to a laser beam could lead to an accident with significant loss of life and economic consequences. This risk increases as more powerful devices become available.

The Department for Transport has considered the typical costs of an air, road and rail accident based on the statistical value of a life in relation to a laser attack. The cost of a low level accident involving a helicopter with 2 fatalities and 5 serious injuries is estimated at around £10m. A high level incident involving a Boeing 747-400 with 100% fatalities is estimated around £1.1bn. This includes the statistical value of life, damage costs and the vehicle loss costs. The cost of a road accident would range from around £6,000 for a low level accident to around £2m for a high level scenario. For rail, using the statistical value of lives only, the cost for a low level accident is around £8,000 and increases to £1.7m for a high level accident. In the case of aviation, the misuse of laser pointers is an increasing safety concern with the potential to endanger life. Shining the beam from a laser pointer at an aircraft and other modes of transport can dazzle and distract a person at the controls of a vehicle, impairing their ability to maintain control. Dazzling a pilot will deny them effective vision – for example the ability to read flight instrument displays, see controls, or assess the flight path using visual cues. This problem is exacerbated where there is only one pilot; should they become blinded even temporarily they could easily lose control of the vehicle, which could have disastrous consequences. Distracting a pilot is less of an immediate threat but nonetheless has safety implications; light will be reflected off the various instruments and displays and the pilot's

attention will be diverted from their primary task of flying an aircraft. This may jeopardise the pilot's (or crew's) ability to complete their tasks.

Laser eye protection is available but all systems rely on filtering light at the relevant wavelength. The filters act against all light at the specified wavelength, not just the light emitted from the laser, so any external light of the same colour will be lost including that from cockpit displays, aerodrome and obstruction lighting.

Since 2010, there have been approximately 1,500 laser attacks on aircraft reported each year in the UK. It is a criminal offence to shine lights at aircraft in flight that dazzle or distract the pilot. Only 23 offenders had action taken against them in 2013 and only 21 in 2014. This may point to a problem with the current legislation and powers available to investigate an offence.

Laser beam attacks against the rail network are also an increasing concern. Records from British Transport Police show that between 1 April 2011 and 31 October 2016, a total of 466 laser incidents were recorded. This equates to approximately 85 incidents per year. We believe these incidents are under-reported since these offences are not currently recordable as a crime. There are also some reports of laser beam attacks against motor vehicles and sea vessels however, as with rail, the true extent of the problem is less well defined in the absence of a specific offence to deal with laser pointers.

Annex C: Existing Legislation

The safety of laser pointers broadly fall under two pieces of legislation – the Air Navigation Order which is managed by the Department for Transport, and the General Product Safety Regulations (GPSR) for which BEIS is responsible. There are also some references to securing the safety of ships and persons travelling on them, danger to road users, and endangering passengers on railways but these do not explicitly refer to laser pointers.

The General Product Safety Regulations

Under the General Product Safety Regulations 2005 (“GPSR”) only laser pointers that are considered safe for general use should be made available to the public through general sale. It is an offence for manufacturers to market or supply dangerous products to consumers.

Laser pointers above 1mW are generally accepted to have limited specialist uses and can be removed from the market under the GPSR if they are being placed on the market for general (rather than specialist) use.

High-powered laser products (above 5 mW) are generally accepted to have limited specialist uses. The existing British Standard (BS EN 60825-1:2014 Safety of Laser Products – Equipment classification and requirements) provides that Class 3B and Class 4 lasers are not suitable for sale to consumers.

Local authority trading standards officers currently have extensive powers to protect the public from exposure to unsafe products such as high-powered laser pointers. They can serve a variety of safety notices on suppliers including one requiring them to withdraw the lasers from sale.

Businesses that market or supply these products or fail to comply with enforcement notices issued by local authority trading standards officers may be liable to an unlimited fine and up to 12 months imprisonment. A Court may also order seizure and destruction of their stock.

Producers and distributors are under a legal responsibility to ensure that the products they make available on the market are safe and correctly labelled as required by the GPSR. The Government understands that the labelling of some high powered laser pointers currently on the market, specifically those on offer at a low price, may not comply with the existing Regulations. Pointers advertised or labelled as having a power less than 1 mW have been found to be much more powerful – some can be up to 500 times the output that is declared on the label. This might be deliberate, but it is also possible that businesses have made laser pointers without knowing the true power output of their products. For example they might not have tested the output of the component parts sold to them as being of low output, when they have been found to be rejects from higher powered samples.

It can be difficult to differentiate high-powered laser products from lower-powered products, and testing is expensive and time consuming. This presents issues for manufacturers and enforcement bodies. The components of laser pointers can vary considerably even within the same consignment of products, making it difficult to rely on the results of batch-testing.

Air Navigation Order

Under Article 225 of the Air Navigation Order (ANO) (2016), “A person must not in the United Kingdom direct or shine any light at any aircraft in flight so as to dazzle or distract the pilot of the aircraft”. This is a summary only offence; the maximum penalty for this offence is a fine up to £2,500.

In addition, Article 240 of the ANO has been used to prosecute offenders who have shone a laser at an aircraft. Under this provision, “*a person must not recklessly or negligently act in a manner likely to endanger an aircraft, or any person in an aircraft*”. This legislation is not an effective tool for the police because in practice, it is very difficult to prove endangerment of an aircraft. This means the powers and penalties this offences comes with are not able to be used.

Across other modes of transport, there is legislation that can be used to prosecute people shining lasers at vehicles. However, these are not laser specific and do not have similar penalties.

Annex D: Regimes in some other countries

New Zealand

High-powered laser pointers cannot be imported into New Zealand without the consent of the Director-General of the Ministry of Health. Their licensing regime only applies to imports because laser pointers are not manufactured in New Zealand.

Australia

Australia is a federation and so individual states make domestic laws. At a national level the import of high-powered laser pointers is banned without a permit.

In New South Wales and Queensland a permit is required for possession of a high-powered laser pointer and if you are carrying a laser pointer in public you must have a “reasonable excuse”. High-powered laser pointers are considered as prohibited weapons in Victoria and in Tasmania possession of any laser pointer in public requires a “reasonable excuse” – there is no power limit.

Canada

Laser pointers are regulated under the Canada Consumer Product Safety Act (CCPSA) and the Radiation Emitting Devices Act (REDA). Under the CCPSA consumer products that pose an unreasonable hazard to human health or safety may not be sold, imported, advertised or manufactured in/to Canada. This includes high-powered laser pointers. In addition under REDA it is prohibited to sell, lease or import into Canada a laser that creates a risk to any person of genetic or personal injury, impairment of health or death from radiation by reason of the fact that it does not perform according to the characteristics claimed for it, does not accomplish its claimed purpose or emits radiation that is not necessary in order for it to accomplish its claimed purpose.

Sweden

The possession of high-powered laser pointers without a licence issued by the Swedish Radiation Safety Authority is prohibited. Breaching the provisions risks a penalty or fine or imprisonment for a maximum of two years.

United States of America

Only lasers up to 5 mW (American class IIIa) are permitted to be imported or sold as laser pointers.

Annex E: Response form

The call for evidence is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/laser-pointers-call-for-evidence>

The closing date for responses is 6 October 2017.

Please return completed forms to:

Lara Godden
Regulatory Delivery
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

Tel: 0207 215 2882

Email: lasers@beis.gov.uk

Please be aware that we intend to publish all responses to this call for evidence.

Information provided in response to this call for evidence, including personal information, may be subject to publication or release to other parties or to disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes. Please see page 5 for further information.

If you want information, including personal data, that you provide to be treated as confidential, please explain to us below why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information, we shall take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the department.

I want my response to be treated as confidential

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Name:

Organisation (if applicable):

Address:

	Respondent type
<input type="checkbox"/>	Business representative organisation/trade body
<input type="checkbox"/>	Central government
<input type="checkbox"/>	Charity or social enterprise
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual
<input type="checkbox"/>	Large business (over 250 staff) (please indicate whether you are a manufacturer, wholesaler or retailer)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal representative
<input type="checkbox"/>	Local government/Trading Standards
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medium business (50 to 250 staff) (please indicate whether you are a manufacturer, wholesaler or retailer)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Micro business (up to 9 staff) (please indicate whether you are a manufacturer, wholesaler or retailer)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small business (10 to 49 staff) (please indicate whether you are a manufacturer, wholesaler or retailer)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trade union or staff association
	Other enforcement body (please specify)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please describe)

Questions:

1: What do you consider to be the scale of the problem with laser pointers? Is the problem specific to high-powered laser pointers (those with a strength of 5 mW or above), or a particular class of laser pointers? What evidence do you have to support your view?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

2: How well do you think the current legislation is working? Is the current guidance on safe use of laser products sufficient?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

3: Is the current guidance on manufacturing and importing laser pointers sufficient?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

4: Do you have any further evidence about the nature and misuse of laser pointers?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

5: What legitimate uses are there for high-powered laser pointers?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

6: Have you ever purchased, sold or made a laser pointer? If so, can you provide more information about where you bought or sold the product (or its component parts), and what the intended use was?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

7: (Enforcement Bodies) Do you know/can you estimate the number of manufacturers, retailers, importers and/or distributors within your Local Authority area?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

8: What strength laser pointers you make/sell? What is the price of each strength laser pointer that you make/sell? Is this a seasonal product (e.g. do you sell more at Christmas)? How many do you sell annually

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

9: What is your target market?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

10: (If you are an enforcement authority) Have you undertaken any enforcement actions with respect to laser pointers, and if so what were they?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

11: (If you are an enforcement authority) What do you estimate as being the level of compliance with the General Product Safety Regulations for laser pointers in your area? On what evidence do you base this?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

12: Do you think a licensing system to control the sale and purchase of laser pointers would be effective?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

13: What do you estimate the costs of implementing a licensing system to be? How should these be recovered?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

14: How might a licensing regime operate? Who should administer a licensing system? Who should enforce it?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

15: Are you aware of any other licensing systems in the UK or in other countries – either for laser pointers or for similar products - which might provide the Government with a useful comparison?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

16: Do you think that a ban on advertising laser pointers would be effective? Why?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

17: How else might Government and other public authorities increase public awareness about the potential dangers of laser pointers?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

18: How else do you think that the supply of high-powered laser pointers could be restricted? Why?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

19: Do you have any other comments or views which might inform the Government's recommendations?

Comments: [Click here to enter text.](#)

