



Department for
Digital, Culture,
Media & Sport

Consultation on: Entertainment Licensing Statistics

November 2018

Background

The statistics team at the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport are consulting on the Entertainment Licensing Statistics publication.

The Entertainment Licensing Statistics publication is an annual Official Statistics publication, covering the number of licenses provided by each local authority in England and Wales that permit regulated entertainment¹. These figures are based on data provided by local authorities and imputed estimates to account for missing returns. Statistics detailing how many licences are held for each type of regulated entertainment are also available.

The latest release was published in February 2018 (available [here](#)), with the full series dating back to 2009 available [here](#).

DCMS are proposing to discontinue this release, on the basis that

1. DCMS are not aware of many users of these statistics
2. Due to the de-regulation of various types of entertainment within the Licensing Act, the statistics may not reflect an accurate picture of the number of premises and clubs hosting entertainment events.
3. Non-response from local authorities has been gradually increasing, meaning more of the estimates are being imputed, based on assumptions, which decreases the robustness of the overall figures over time.

We are keen to know how this proposal would impact on users. As such, this consultation seeks feedback on the Entertainment Licensing Statistics publication and specifically why you use the data, what information is used and how frequently you use the information. Users are welcome to respond only to those questions they consider relevant to them.

The consultation also provides an opportunity for you to comment on any aspect of the Entertainment Licensing Statistics publication. The consultation is open to everyone, including members of the public.

DCMS aim to continuously improve our statistical outputs as well as ensuring that they continue to meet user needs and make the most effective use of resources available. Discontinuing the Entertainment Licensing Statistics publication would free up resource to develop our key outputs, including the Taking Part Survey and DCMS Sector Economic Estimates, and to meet the growing demand for analysis to inform policy decisions on the many existing and emerging priorities within DCMS's remit. The priorities for DCMS's statistics team for 2018/19 are set out in our [statistical work plan](#), published on 28 August 2018.

How to respond

Responses to this consultation should be sent to evidence@culture.gov.uk, or by post to Emily Pycroft, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, 4th Floor, 100 Parliament Street, London, SW1A 2BQ. Alternatively, you can telephone Emily on 0207 211 6872.

Responses should be received by **17 January 2018**. We plan to publish a summary of responses to the consultation, and decisions made, in due course. Please indicate if you do not wish for your replies to be made public.

¹ The types of regulated entertainment which may require a license are specified in the [Licensing Act 2013](#).

Questions

DCMS propose that the Entertainment Licensing Statistics publication is discontinued. We are not aware of many users of these statistics. In addition, we are concerned that due to the de-regulation of various types of entertainment within the Licensing Act, the statistics may not reflect an accurate picture of the number of premises and clubs hosting entertainment events. The response rate for these questions has been gradually declining over time, increasing the need to impute for missing data and mean the robustness of the estimates is falling.

1. The Entertainment Licensing Statistics publication was last updated on 27 February 2018. Were you aware this had been published? Are you aware that this is an annual release?
2. Have you used these statistics at all? By 'used' we mean engaged with the contents of the release to inform your work or areas of interest.
3. If yes, which elements of the release did you use in your work?
 - a) Premise Licenses – total figures
 - b) Premise Licenses – individual categories
 - c) Premise Licenses – regional rates by 1,000 population
 - d) Club premise certificates – total figures
 - e) Club premise certificates - individual categories
 - f) Club premise certificates - regional rates by 1,000 population
4. Please describe how and why you use these statistics. Please be as specific as possible; for example, if you use the statistics to provide briefing and further analysis to others, it would be helpful to know what the end use is.
5. How often do you use this publication?
6. If this publication ceased altogether, what impact would that have on you as an individual or on your organisation (if applicable)?
7. Are there any data items or information within the existing publication to which it would be essential for you to continue to have access on an annual basis?
8. Are you aware of any other data sources on this topic which you'd be able to use if this publication ceased altogether?
9. Do you have any other comments about the Entertainment Licensing Statistics publication?
10. Is your response based on your own views as an individual user or on behalf of an organisation? If responding on behalf of an organisation, please provide the name of the organisation.
11. May we contact you to discuss your response to this consultation? This may be to follow up on any specific points we need to clarify.

Further information

The data underlying the Entertainment Licensing Statistics publication are gathered as part of a joint data collection exercise with the Home Office, who administer the statistical return. The Home Office publish data on Alcohol and late night refreshment licensing. Their latest release was published in October 2018 and is available [here](#). The Home Office are also currently running a consultation on their licensing statistics. DCMS encourage you to also provide feedback on the [Home Office consultation](#) if relevant to you.

All DCMS statistical releases are pre-announced in our [statistical release calendar](#). You can also keep up to date on our releases and other developments by following us on Twitter [@DCMSInsight](#)

We are always interested in feedback from our users so if you have any comments about DCMS statistical releases after the closing date for this consultation, please send these to evidence@culture.gov.uk.

The responsible statistician for this consultation is Emily Pycroft. For enquiries on this consultation, please contact Emily on 0207 211 6872 or evidence@culture.gov.uk.

For general enquiries, contact:

Department for Digital, Culture Media and Sport
100 Parliament Street
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Telephone: 020 7211 6000

Sign up [here](#) to receive email updates on DCMS statistical outputs.



Department for
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