



Department for

Communities

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From the Minister

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Henry

Thank you for your letter dated 5 October 2016 on behalf of Belfast City Council's Licensing Committee, in which you request an update on the progress of the review by the Entertainment Licensing Review Group.

The former Department of Environment's response to the public consultation following the Report by the Entertainment Licensing Review Group indicated that more detailed proposals for a future entertainment licensing regime would be developed and further liaison was needed with other Departments on certain issues.

As the Minister who has now assumed responsibility for entertainment licensing, I am currently considering the Report of the Entertainment Licensing Group, together with the Departmental Response to the public consultation on that report, to decide what further work may be needed on updating the entertainment licensing regime.

I acknowledge the significant work carried out to date by the Review Group and will be giving consideration to all of the issues contained in its report including the sentencing for breaches of entertainment licensing legislation, and the issues around the licensing of circuses with animals.

Yours sincerely

PAUL GIVAN MLA
Minister for Communities