

Appendix 2

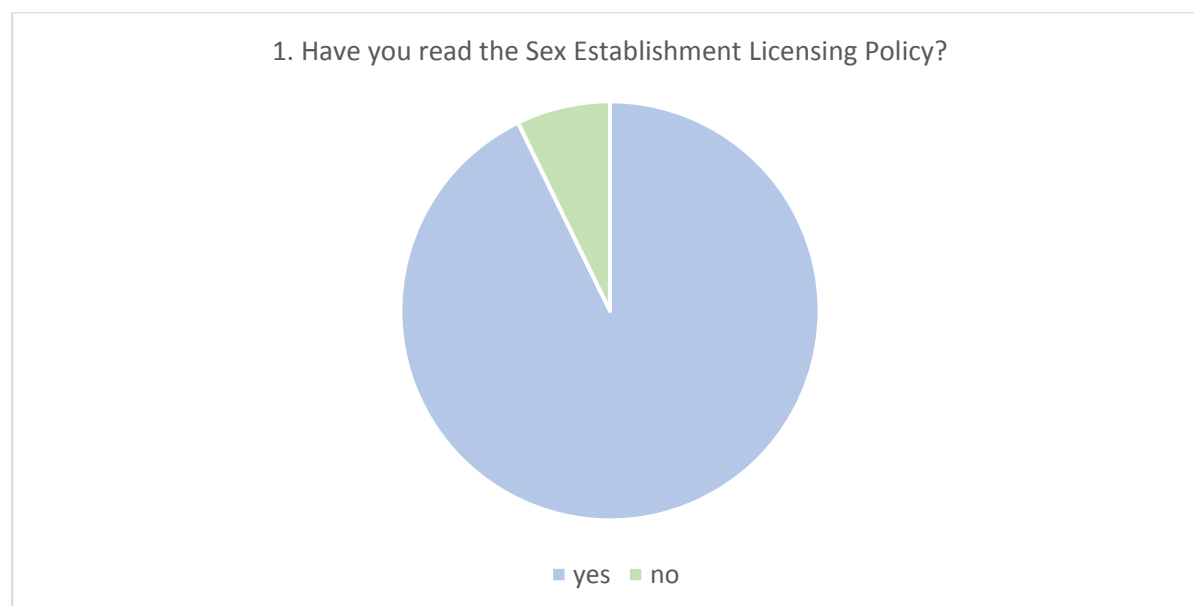
Sex Establishment Draft Licensing Policy Consultation

An eight week consultation was launched until 15th July 2018, which consisted of letters and emails to local businesses and residents who have requested to be informed of our consultations. A webpage containing the Sex Establishment Licencing Policy draft document, the Licensing Conditions and a hardcopy questionnaire for download and an online version of the questionnaire was also made available.

The results

A total of 88 respondents have accessed and responded to the consultation using either the paper questionnaire or online, responding to the questions set and using the free text part to raise any other issues in relation to this consultation and these are included in the appendices of this report.

Please note: not all questions were completed by all participants.



This question was answered by 83 respondents, of that 6 stated they had not read the document and 77 responded that they had.

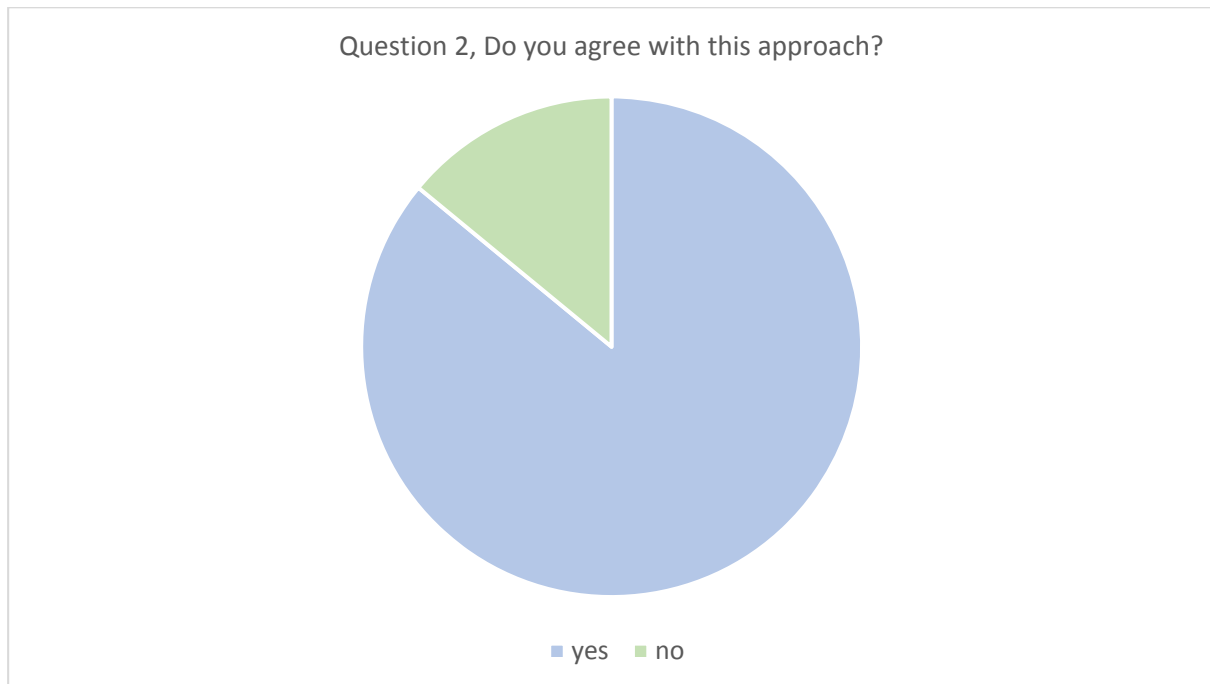
Question 2, gave an indication of what Southend has now and what it proposes as part of the policy if adopted

2. Southend-on-Sea Borough Council currently licenses:

- 2 licensed sex shops
- 4 licensed sex entertainment venues
- 0 licensed sex cinemas

In Section 10.01 of the draft policy, the Council has proposed to limit the number of licences to the current number and type of SEVs that it presently has. It proposes that the limit will

automatically drop downwards to zero in the event that a licence is surrendered, revoked or not renewed.



Of those responding 85% agreed with the approach that the limit will automatically drop downwards to zero in the event that a licence is surrendered, revoked or not renewed.

Question 2.1 asked for those responding to outline their reasons and it was an open response (free text) which was answered by 57 respondents

No	Comment
01	I do not believe Southend to be a suitable place to locate SEVs so I would welcome this dropping down to zero.
02	Licensed sex shops are like any other shop in the high street they are there to offer a service and advice on personal matters related to sex. The 2 licensed sex shops have been established one for 30 years plus (Harmony) and has always followed strict licencing rules that have been put in place by the council. This council penalises shops that have been established for over 20s plus and licenced but turn a blind eye to Anne summers and mistress boutique who run without a licence but sell sex goods to, also turn a blind eye to all the herbal massage shops opening everywhere that offer more than just massages offering sex to .Also massage parlours that are everywhere one including AB Fab in Westcliff that have featured in the echo but council do nothing about them. Let's punish the law abiding shops. This day in age to be thinking that sex shops or strip clubs do not belong in towns in the UK goes to show how out of touch the council are .
03	Maintain current level
04	As a council that is looking to achieve City of Culture status, I believe that SEV's etc are not helpful to that cause. Limiting the number of SEVs, so that they eventually

	fall to zero signals a clear family inclusive policy on the seafront, where a number of SEVs operate.
05	By taking this approach, you are driving the sex trade underground and this could have an impact on the safety of those that work in them and those that frequent them as it becomes illegal - therefore opening up the opportunities for criminals to further exploitation and no regulation means they can do as they please.
06	Firstly, the Council should not be granting licenses for such businesses, particular ones close to residential areas and schools. Secondly, does council want to promote these seedy establishment instead of trying to revive our High Street with family friendly establishments?
07	Do not support objectification of our female residents
08	For the size of the town, four venues is more than enough. These type of venues are not a positive addition to Southend which promotes itself as a family town. These venues add a seedy element to Southend's nightlife and the areas in which they are situated become no go areas for women in particular. The women that work in these clubs are at risk of assault and many of them come from abused backgrounds. This is not the type of establishment that Southend should encourage. Other areas in the UK have put restrictions on these venues and Southend should be progressive and do the same.
09	Given that films and sex products are available on line we certainly don't need figure increasing. With venue's extremely important that they can be kept to a very high standard. I feel if number was increased given budget cuts conditions would be let slip
10	I fully support the draft policy that aims to limit the number of licences for Sex Establishments to zero. I totally agree with the statement (10.1.6) in the policy that states- "The Council does not consider any area within the Borough to be an appropriate location for any sex shops, sex entertainment venues, or sex cinemas and sets the following limits which will automatically drop downwards to zero in the event that a licence is surrendered, revoked or not renewed" I particularly support the provision in section 38 which states "38) Dancers shall be provided with secure and private changing facilities. This shall include the provision of a toilet and, with effect from 1st October 2018, a shower, which are for the sole use of the dancers. They shall use the dressing room facilities provided to change for their performance." Any improvement in the working conditions of the dancers at existing venues is to be applauded.
11	I fully support the Council's statement that it "does not consider any area within the Borough to be an appropriate location for any sex shops, sex entertainment venues, or sex cinemas" and I note that this falls in line with several other local authorities who have implemented the same policy.
12	I would like to see these establishments drop to 'zero' and I see this proposal as positive in that the council are committing to not approving any more licences.
13	I would like to see a town that does not promote the treatment of women as sexy objects.
14	I think the reduction of these venues can only be a good thing. Appropriate facilities do not always seem to be provided for those who work in some venues, it isn't always obvious that this sort of entertainment is offered and so people (especially

	those visiting the area for the day) could easily walk in unwittingly, perhaps even with children.
15	It is a poor manner of policing venues and the workers do not have enough access to showers and safety
16	No reasons are offered for this change in approach. Therefore why make the change? The number of SEV within Southend at the moment can hardly be said to cause a problem. I would be interested to hear of any challenge to the current number of licences that does not rely on an inappropriate moral judgement. Southend is a large conurbation that serves a wide variety of residents (and visitors) and therefore should provide - or more accurately not prevent private individuals from providing - a wide range of shops and recreational facilities. The number of SEV should be, as a minimum, maintained at their current level. If an application for a cinema was to come forward then this should be looked at favourably (of course taking into account 10.3.1), as one cinema for a population of 170,000 could hardly be deemed excessive. The policy suggested in 10.1 should not be 'Without prejudice' to 10.3, but rather 10.3 should make 10.1 wholly unnecessary.
17	It is no longer, nor in my mind, has it ever been, appropriate for women to be publicly presented to men for their sexual gratification - especially not in Southend, where many families visit. I agree with the gradual phasing out of these premises rather than an abrupt abolition, to ensure employees have time to find alternative employment. But I very much look forward to the time when this happens.
18	It states in the policy that the council finds that no area of the town is suitable for a SEV. So begs the question why do we have them? Southend is frequently advertised as a family resort, therefore SEV'S bring nothing to the town, and in my opinion smear the towns image
19	Principally I believe there is an objective concern for the health and safety of sex workers in sex entertainment venues, e.g. access to showers, security, and recourse against their clients in the case of high-risk scenarios. I am also aware there isn't a current standard that venues adhere to for the safety of their workers. Similarly, I also have concerns that there may not be adequate information for drug and alcohol abuse as well as sexual and domestic violence.
20	No place for these venues in our community
21	Limits the chance of a new cross-over business that may come under the terms if the SEV policy
22	The adult entertainment and sex industry is a vehicle for the exploitation of women. I accept that Southend has adult and sex industry venues and support measures to regulate these, with the council intervening and revoking licenses if safe standards are not met. We must safeguard vulnerable and under aged women from lap dancing becoming escorting and prostitution, from being victims of human trafficking or used by the drug industry. If they have nothing to hide about their industry then the current owners of licenses have nothing to fear. I object to new venues opening, attracting seediness and in my view organised crime to the area.
23	SEVs are an outdated institution and do not reflect the modern culture we are trying to reflect in Southend.
24	Not increasing current premises feels very reasonable with a view to allowing the existing premises to continue as long as they adhere to licensing regulations.

25	Sex Entertainment Venues are not appropriate, anywhere. They are detrimental to women and promote a culture that commoditises women as a whole. We should be moving towards reducing all types of SEV in Southend to zero.
26	Sexual venues in the current state of culture support the sexual objectification of women. Their presence and majority focus on gratifying male desires sends the wrong signal in the society which although has the equality of sexes recognised in law still surfaces dynamics around discriminating against women - see Weinstein et al scandal, persistent pay gap, pink tax etc.. The presence of SEV serve to normalize male behaviours which show lack of respect for women.
27	Southend is a family resort. The objectification of women for the purpose of male entertainment is outdated and no longer tolerated in society. It encourages human trafficking +serious crime such 'cuckooing' of drug dealers. Southend is not a seedy place +no resident should be subject to having this thrust upon their daily living. We have seen an explosion of betting shops and the subsequent gambling addictions. Southend is an accessible place that deserves to be renowned for the image it's residents deserve not a second rate Soho.
28	Such establishments can be explorative, and the safety of the women working there should be a top priority.
29	Southend must be safe for women and having experienced assault myself directly outside a sex establishment in Southend and also knowing that the research clearly outlines the dangers and risks posed by these places.
30	Southend has worked hard and made considerable investment to lose its 'sleazy' image. We are now a family town, a university town and we should not allow ANY sex establishments in any part of the Borough. No area should be a 'no go' area for woman and families.
31	Support the policy of no increases in numbers of these establishments
32	The adult entertainment and sex industry is a vehicle for the exploitation of women. I accept that Southend has adult and sex industry venues and support measures to regulate these, with the council intervening and revoking licenses if safe standards are not met. We must safeguard vulnerable and under aged women from lap dancing becoming escorting and prostitution, from being victims of human trafficking or used by the drug industry. If they have nothing to hide about their industry then the current owners of licenses have nothing to fear. I object to new venues opening, attracting seediness and in my view organised crime to the area.
33	The area covered by the borough council has a very high proportion of densely-populated residential and retail areas. These areas are inhabited or used by people who are highly unlikely to utilise a local sex entertainment venue (SEV) for social, income or employment reasons. In addition, SEVs, in general, are strongly associated with cultural attitudes and behaviours which are detrimental to the development of inclusive and supportive community cohesion in our residential areas and bring little or no added commercial value to our retail areas.
34	The council should adopt a zero policy on sex industry licenses
35	The proximity of existing establishments to safe-guarded areas of the Borough, as defined in the consultation paperwork, is self-evident and I support the Council's view on this assessment
36	These places cheapen the town, lower the tone - we have enough problems with crime giving Southend a bad reputation.....

37	I do not want any sex shops, sex entertainment venues or massage parlours in Southend
38	I fully support NOT increasing the number of licences, and - if we can't ban such places immediately - very happy with the approach of dropping downwards to zero.
39	I believe there is no room for the objectification of women in our community. I would like to see an end to the establishment of sex entertainment venues and would go further to support the closure of existing premises. I do not wish to see our seaside town descend into a haven for raucous stag/hen dos
40	Is not a healthy approach to sex and encourages misogynistic views
41	It is not a good idea and not what we would like in our town. I think we have enough bad things going on and this would only add to the bad press we get in Southend. This would not improve the town and I wholly applaud this application.
42	I don't agree with the exploitation of women which I believe these venues are.
43	I am not concerned about the number of venues as long as they are properly run
44	I fully support the number remaining and not increasing. Also I understand it is very difficult to revoke existing licenses
45	I do not feel that these establishments, which profit off the exploitation of predominantly women's bodies, have a place in a family town in the 21st century. They are outdated and a policy to manage down the numbers to zero would be very welcome.
46	SEVs should be reduced to zero
47	Sex establishment Venues support the view that the female body sole purpose is to be entertain value for male sexual fantasy and frustration. Exploitation occurs in the workplace and is not in line with the Councils policy on equality of opportunity, clean and healthy lifestyles. There is a correlation with SEV and sexual offences in surrounding areas at least one of the SEVs is in a residential area with vulnerable young people nearby.
48	Southend Borough Council needs to take a principled stance against SEVs and made it abundantly clear that this authority does not condone the sexual objectification of women for any purposes, especially as a form of entertainment. Sex Entertainment is deeply misogynistic and far from providing stable, well-paid and safe employment for women it often puts many already vulnerable women in more precarious positions.
49	Think this signals that SBC does not support the objectification of women and will improve the character of the area.
50	This is a family seaside town. I agree the limit should be zero.
51	This is a step in the right direction- we should have zero in the borough but as it must be hard to revoke existing licences this shows the direction the council want to go in to eventually eradicate them in the borough.
52	This is more than enough for a town the size of Southend. I'd rather there weren't any at all as I believe that such establishments harm all women, particularly those that work in them. They allow the prejudicial and misogynistic attitudes some men hold towards women to go unchallenged, indeed they promote them as if they are acceptable. I would not want my daughters working in such a place and I doubt many of the owners/managers/customers would either. I'm absolutely in favour of limiting, then reducing, the number of SEVs.

53	To limit the risk to vulnerable women of being entrapped within this industry due to their varying complex life situations.
54	We do not need these types of establishments in the borough
55	We have no need for these premises around Southend promoting sexual bias and young women trapped into this work, outdated and dangerous
56	We need to make the town a safer place for women, so that they do not feel pressured into the sex trade or objectified by men who feel that these establishments are acceptable or 'serve a purpose'.
57	Women should not be exploited in this way.

Question 2.2 asked for those responding if they feel that the Council's proposal to limit numbers should be modified in some way it was an open response (free text) which was answered by 28 respondents

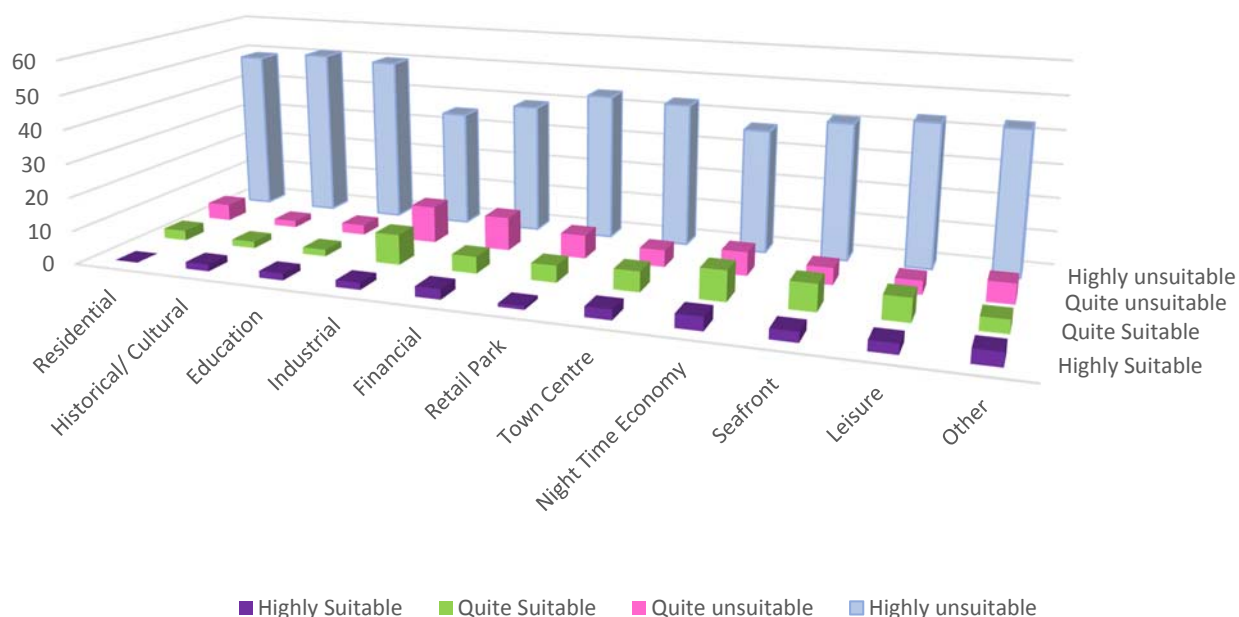
No	Comment
01	A provision of 1 SEV licence slot available to assign to a new business at the Council's discretion.
02	Close them all down and limit them to zero in my opinion.
03	Hold a current level
04	Appendix 1 should be enforced with planned and random checks made (including of incident logs, CCTV and working conditions). Advice and support should be available to dancers and other staff to ensure that their safety, health and well-being are protected. Similarly local residents and other local people should be advised to report any concerns at all. Any breach of conditions should result in renewed consideration of the licence.
05	I am satisfied with the approach, though if a zero figure could legally and easily be reached quicker, I would be in favour of that.
06	I do not want any of the proposal to be considered
07	I do think the amount that are in the town are sufficient and I do agree some sort of limit but this should be done on merit and with each application, rather than a blanket approach, that these are bad and therefore should not be here. Its about having an informed choice for the individual, those that don't like them do not need to visit them and probably would not.
08	I support the council proposal and would review the existing licenses with intention to close or repurpose these venues
09	I think it is fine - in an ideal world it should have gone further to outline the type of support /agencies that are available to support women.
10	I think the proposal should stand as it is. I think the nil cap is on Sex Entertainments Venues is reasonable and necessary
11	No
12	No, I think this is a fair way of reducing the number of establishments.
13	No, I think this is a good idea to limit the number. I am sure this is also a good way for police to focus their resources as well.
14	No, just keep number as is and not increase it
15	No. The proposal should be passed into policy at the soonest opportunity.
16	No; about right

17	Not at all. I agree it should be zero.
18	Only if the venues are not properly run
19	Please we don't need this sort of entertainment in Southend, please promote family , and art and all the lovely friendly things Southend could offer
20	Suggest restrictions on rtyoe and mode and a comprehensive workers package of care. See alternatives raised for Kursaal
21	The council should aim for a zero tolerance for this type of venue. The town is much more suited to venues that are not inherently misogynist in their very existence.
22	The Council should not limit numbers on a borough-wide basis. The Council should review each application on its merits, which may well include the location, but also the number of other (similar) SEV within the area.
23	The council should not only try to limit these license, but should have a long term view to eliminate them altogether.
24	While Southend Council and other Local Authorities continue to allow any sex industry venues and shops to be operation they are colluding with ongoing issues and battles for women and men to both reach equality.
25	Yes have a cap on the amount of shops or strip clubs and yes do not have them near schools and other places like that but to get rid of these premises once licences are not renewed or revoked is madness. Lets hope Southend council rethink some of these policies.
26	n/a
27	n/a
28	n/a

Question 3.1 Do you think that any areas of our Borough might be more suited to having sex establishments than others?

Overall of those responding 85% stated that there are no areas in the Borough that are more suited to having a sex establishments. However, out of all of the options identified the Night Time Economy, Industrial and Financial areas came out higher than the other areas as quite suitable and highly suitable.

3. Do you think that any areas of our Borough might be more suited to having sex establishments than others?



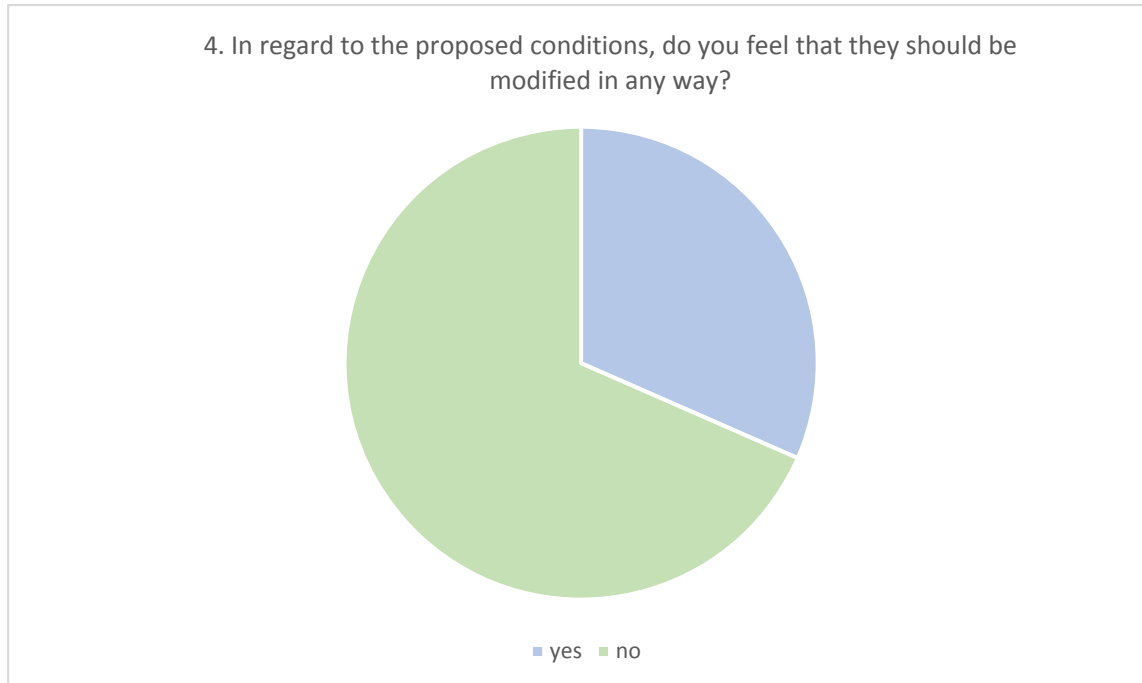
Question 3.2 If you have identified other – this was an open response (free text) which was answered by 16 respondents

No	Comment
01	Any area which is used by people who are highly unlikely to utilise SEVs for any reason and are more likely to be affected adversely by the cultural attitudes and behaviours strongly associated with SEVs. Including, for example: - High street retail areas - Areas where non-SEV employment premises are situated - Areas with public transport links - Areas with premises for the provision of health, social care, libraries, advice, support or other community services. - Areas where clubs, political, religious or other non-SEV-related organisations meet, hold events or use for other purposes - Unpopulated or low-populated areas which provide environments conducive to wild life or have other ecological value - Areas providing public and community amenities such as recycling/ refuse, car parking, fire stations, cycle storage and so on.
02	Anywhere near children, women or men.
03	I agree with the statement that from The Council that it "does not consider any area within the Borough to be an appropriate location for any sex shops, sex entertainment venues, or sex cinemas". There is no suitable place for SEVs.
04	Areas of the seafront not currently frequented by families
05	I agree with the statement that from The Council that it "does not consider any area within the Borough to be an appropriate location for any sex shops, sex entertainment venues, or sex cinemas". There is no suitable place for SEVs.
06	In my opinion any customers that would normally frequent sex shops, would use the internet which is much more discreet. So why does Southend have two such

	establishments in the town centre? One of which is a chain that uses a loophole in the law to sell sex toys.
07	More for the arts.
08	No area is suitable for SEVs as SEVs are not acceptable anywhere. There is no area where it is more or less acceptable to commoditize and sexually objectify women whether you pay them for it or not.
09	No area is suitable. Health and safety for Sex Workers should be a priority and their safety is limited by the type of work they are undertaking. Women residents of Southend should be able to undertake jobs that pay fairly and do not put them at risk of sexual assault due to the nature of their work.
10	Sex shops and strip clubs should be able to operate in most places as long as it can't be seen from the outside and as long as there is notices and signs that explain what the premises are and signs preventing underage people from entering.
11	Sexism/misogyny isn't 'suitable' anywhere at all. Are we really having this conversation in 2018?
12	There is nothing suitable or desirable about promoting sexual objectification.
13	We should not have any in the borough they are highly exploitative, the continent to contribute to gender inequality and send a message out to children and young adult's women can be bought and objectified.
14	Where it has been assessed to be safe and well policed. It does not disturb the population but affords all consenting adults to have inclusive practices. There is no one definitive location
15	There is nothing suitable or desirable about promoting sexual objectification.
16	I really don't agree with any area being deemed as 'suitable' for sex industry sites, so therefore deem all to be unsuitable. I feel it's hypocritical for someone to say one area is suitable and then hit the roof if such an establishment should open up in their residential area,

Question 4. In regard to the proposed conditions, do you feel that they should be modified in any way?

This response was answered by 57 respondents 68% of those said the proposed conditions should not be modified in any way.



4.1. If yes, please give details below, remembering to quote the condition number with each comment on it, this was an open response (free text) which was answered by 17 respondents

No	Comment
01	10.1 should be deleted in its entirety
02	45. I think it would be helpful to be more specific about the type of support workers will be informed about. Support seems a very broad term and the most relevant or vital support may not be provided if the type of support isn't made clear in this condition.
03	all shops that sell sex goods should have a licence (not one rule for one shop and another rule for others)
04	Appendix 1 - Conditions ALL PREMISES - 14) ... and those leading to parts of the premises to which the public does not have access shall be marked 'private': ADD 'and the privacy of those private spaces ensured.' Sex Entertainment Venues - 11) All private booths shall be fitted with a panic button or security alarm. ADD 'tested regularly, with tests and results logged.' Sex Entertainment Venues - 38) Dancers shall be provided with secure and private changing facilities. This shall include the provision of a toilet and, with effect from 1st October 2018, a shower, which are for the sole use of the dancers. NOTE: provision of private toilet and shower facilities essential! ADD minimum requirements relating to size, number of cubicles etc for given number of dancers. Sex Entertainment Venues - 45) The Licensee shall signpost performers and staff to suitable support services... SPECIFY which kinds of services it

	is essential to provide information about, and which are also recommended. Sex Entertainment Venues - 48) The Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) system. ADD a paragraph to ensure the secure storage and tightly-restricted access to all recordings.
05	Condition 45 - I think that the employers can go further than this considering the amount of money that they make in this business. In other jobs (probably including council staff), employees have access to an Employee Assistance Programme - eg advice with financial, legal, family problems etc. These services also include counselling services for staff in times of personal difficulty. I would like the staff in these establishments (if we must have 6 of them in the town) to have access to external support services paid for by the employer. On commencing in one of these establishments, ideally, I would like staff to have a series of counselling sessions eg one a week over six weeks. I don't think that handing a pile of leaflets to someone is sufficient. Then, I would like the staff to have regular access to counselling in order to build resilience to what they may experience in these establishments. This would need to be with an appropriately registered/qualified counsellor/psychologist.
06	Condition 45 is good that it offers support services to the workers however perhaps this could be more helpful and outline what services are available, such as domestic abuse and sexual violence services.
07	I believe conditions 25 - 29 inclusive and 33 and 34 require further consultation specifically with the people working as dancers within the local premises currently licensed as SEVs. They are very prescriptive and I am not clear whether they would prevent dancers from carrying out their legal employment?
08	I think that point 45 should be more specific and list the kinds of support services that information should be available about This should include drug and alcohol misuse support, support with domestic abuse / violence and sexual violence and support services specifically for those working in the sex industry.
09	Ideally the licenses could be revoked as and when not only when they are due for renewal.
10	If the establishment is properly run, I do not feel there should be limitations on it.
11	Just close them all down, Southend is becoming a cesspit what with drugs and crime and this kind of thing. I worry for my children being bought up here.
12	Not renewing anymore sex related entertainment
13	See previous response re random checks etc. I'm pleased to see that dancers will need to have access to a shower wef 1.10.18. Cond. 4. I would say if people in the neighbourhood are disturbed it is unreasonable therefore this word should be removed. Cond. 10 I would like to see some strengthening of the requirements to monitor private booths.
14	Southend Borough council should have a zero capping policy for anything that promotes lack of equality.
15	Would suggest that the offer of sexual health screening and self-testing kits is encouraged at the current venues. Not because intercourse is taking place but because it's an audience with their mind on sex at the time of visiting so would be more open to testing if no wait , also targets a cross range of society
16	45) The Licensee shall signpost performers and staff to suitable support services. This shall include the provision of leaflets sited within the changing area and handed to each performer prior to commencement of their contract/employment. The

	section on "suitable support services" is a little vague and I feel it should be made more explicit what type of support the performers can expect to have access to. In particular some reference should be made to issues of domestic abuse and sexual violence as well as issues surrounding drug and alcohol abuse and sexual health.
17	No comment

5. Please make any other comments you would like us to consider about the proposed policy or conditions. Please include references to the sections in the policy where appropriate. This also was an open response (free text) question and was answered by 30 people.

No	Comment
01	A concern of mine would be the welfare of the women who work in these premises and an increased probability of sexual assault of both these women and those who may be in the area.
02	Anything that helps to reduce the possibility of reducing venues that exploit women to zero would be fantastic progress for this town. Any amendments that help protect women are welcomed.
03	Condition 38 - I think it is reasonable for staff to have access to changing and washing facilities that are of a reasonable standard so that they can shower etc before going home. Probably this is more relevant for the staff in the entertainment venues, but I don't have enough knowledge in this matter to comment on the shops. Condition 14 - I think that 18 is too young for the dancers, I feel that this should be a minimum age of 21 years. I am also concerned about how girls as young as 18 are getting home after working a shift in one of these establishments. I think that the employer should be providing safe transport - door to door.
04	Consistency of health and hygiene should be implemented across all venues, so that the women who are working in SEVs can access showers. People performing at SEVs should have access to support services and information about abuse, domestic violence, sexual violence, drug and alcohol addictions. The safety of the performers at SEVs should be the highest priority of the venues that are currently operating, along with fairer pay.
05	I am concerned that blocking those that wish to open an establishment in this area will drive the industry underground as whilst there is a demand, the supply will always be required, if they were not needed they would close and it be a failed business. I believe the amount we have in the town is enough and I do not believe there is a need for anymore and I am sure if they were successful there would be more open. I do think that those in the High Street selling these goods should be better regulated as when you walk passed you can see exactly what they are selling and anyone under the age could just wander in and walk to the back.
06	I am pleased to see that conditions 38 and 45 will improve the working environment for the staff. Whilst the venues are in existence the staff should be looked after in what is a dangerous and exploitative environment.
07	I am really pleased that the Council have made these adjustments and done this consultation. It shows not only that they are showing performers that their safety at work is paramount but also showing due regard for the Public Sector Equality Duty.
08	I fully support this proposal and thank it's a long time coming

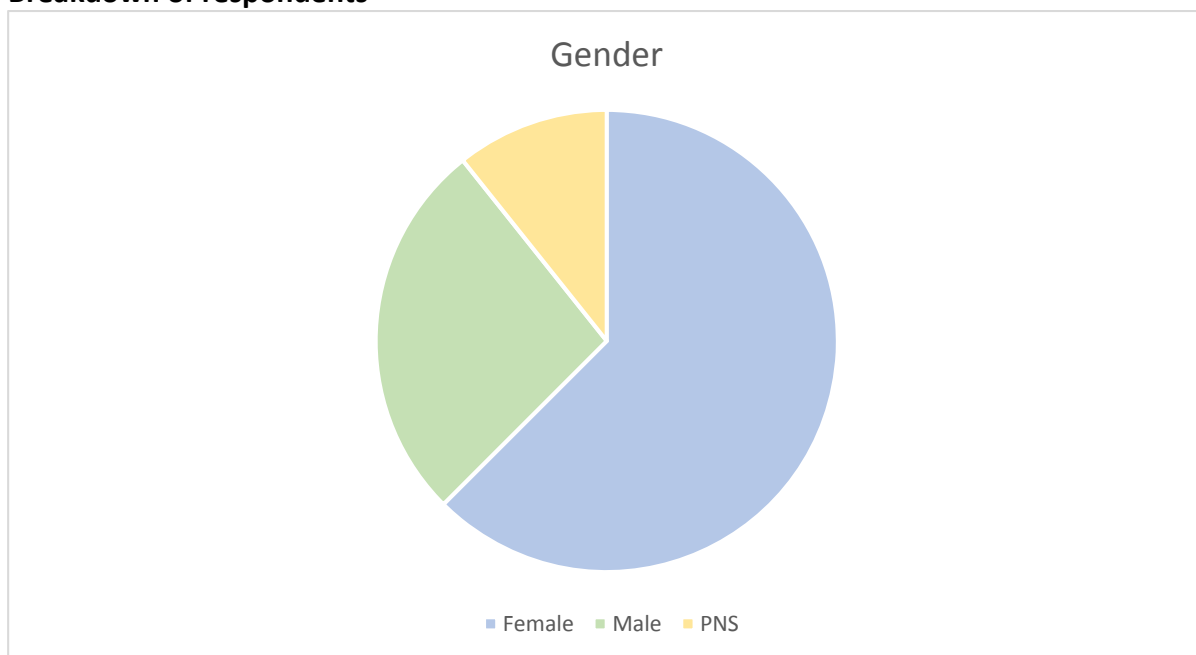
09	I live (and work) next door to one of these establishments, and have done so for approximately 35 years, and it has NOT been a problem.
10	I once worked in a public service for nearly 30 years that required visits to all the licensed premises in the Southend area including all SEV'S. And at no time did I see the guidelines regarding touching etc being adhered to. They were regularly flouted and any cameras that were installed were not even connected, or no recordings made. The operators of these clubs know all too well that the authorities do not have the staff or resources to check that guidelines are being adhered to.
11	I particularly welcome the addition of private shower facilities for performers and the fact that establishments must provide information regarding available support services to performers. It would be good if this policy could include what information establishments are obliged to provide (for example, substance support services, domestic and sexual violence support etc).
12	I support the proposed conditions particularly the requirement for showers exclusively for the use of performers.
13	I think condition 38 could be strengthened to specify minimum space requirements for dressing room facilities and numbers of toilets and showers available according to the number of dancers likely to use them. Otherwise, there's potential for the actual condition to be met while working conditions for the dancers do not improve, or even worsen. I think condition 43 should be excluded. I can't think of another job where the employee is required to advise their manager if his or her spouse, civil partner, boyfriend or girlfriend is on their work premises and it feels discriminatory to issue a "blanket rule" for these particular employees. Especially as no rationale is given for it. If it's about increased potential for inappropriate behaviour, that could be covered in a specific requirement to "notify if have any reason to believe they are likely to cause etc" perhaps? Also, I think it needs to cover former partners etc and any other persons known to the dancer if this is the aim and indicate what action the management is expected to take in these circumstances.
14	I think it is a bad idea to have such establishments near the town centre or near residential areas. We already have enough problems with anti social behaviour and these types of businesses attract a certain clientele, which makes the town even more unsafe, particularly in the evening.
15	I think the policy covers most eventualities and the licensing committee members are very capable of interpreting it
16	I think the requirements to provide private shower facilities (38) and information about support agencies (45) for performers provide essential services for workers in sexual entertainment.
17	I would support the Nordic model with regard to the regulation and licensing of the sex industry in Southend
18	If these venues are to be run with conditions this must be attainable. Safety and health of workers a priority
19	Improving work conditions - all employers need to ensure they maintain a Duty of Care towards their employees. I would want any/ all workers in any sex establishment to have full information and training about many areas of concerns including domestic violence, drug/alcohol abuse and how to keep themselves safe. In the 21st Century and in the midst of the 'me too' campaign is it really appropriate

	to have ANY establishments that cater almost exclusively for males to objectify woman's bodies? Is this really what we want for our town?
20	It doesn't appear that there is a requirement for the CCTV operator to be observing footage whilst the premises is open; this would make it safer for dancers and other staff and should be part of the conditions.
21	It is important that the welfare of performers is a prime concern, with facilities such as showers (section 38) and information about support services being provided (section 45) in all establishments. I welcome the move to limit the numbers and not allow new venues if existing ones have their licenses revoked or not renewed.
22	Please don't spoil our town which is now on up.
23	Please ensure that women's views are taken into consideration. The council is still overwhelmingly male and we must look at this subject in a balanced way. This affects the way women feel about walking in certain areas of our town-this is unacceptable. We know women are being trafficked and forced into sex work-we should not be seen to support this.
24	Point 38 – I think it is important that venues work to the same standard and for example a shower must be available for performers Point 45 – information about support services have to be provided to performers - this point is quite vague. It could specify as an appendix for example a list of local support services which might be pertinent ie. domestic abuse, sexual violence, drug & alcohol
25	Sex Establishment Licensing Policy - Draft Policy for consultation 2018 10.1.6 ... The Council does not consider any area within the Borough to be an appropriate location for any sex shops, sex entertainment venues, or sex cinemas. QUESTION: If this is so, what about the Unlicensed premises (Para 8.4) - how are they to be identified and monitored? If the number of licenced premises is reduced, what is the likelihood of more unlicensed ones springing up? And what safeguarding provisions are there for them?
26	Southend is an amazing town. In the day time we provide entertainment and enjoyment for families who are coming to visit and ones that live here! Yet when night time comes Southend is willing to exclude this by allowing massage parlours, lap dancing clubs and other venues to be allowed. I think the proposed changes to our sex establishments licencing policies are a much needed step forward for our town. Currently there are four areas of the town that feel off limits to many women and make the towns space feel dominated and priotised for men's enjoyment. I think stopping any more of the towns space being used to sexually commodify women will send Southend in the direction of being a more cultured and egalitarian town. In the meantime I think it is wonderful that you are putting forward plans to improve the working conditions for the women within these lap dancing clubs. It seems to me that the ability to shower and feel safe should be a basic requirement of any SEV establishment. I'm so pleased the town is moving forward in regards to its consideration for the women and girls who live here. Excellent work and proposals!
27	The policy says the Council does not take a moral stand (2.2) but why not? After all such moral judgements are made (subtle though they may be) e.g. not citing them in residential/family friendly areas. Why not be forward looking and state that the Council recognises that women and girls should be free from sexual objectification and that the council are proud to support a zero SEV policy? Such venues do not 'satisfy' certain needs of men, they reinforce the idea that men are entitled to 'view'

	all women in the same way. A spectrum from 'free to comment on the way they dress', free to pass judgements about their bodies' to 'expectations that women's bodies are available for their entertainment' licensed or not. I always find it helps when trying to find a fair approach to such matters is to swop genders. How would men feel if licensed venues existed for women to go to where we sat round discussing the size of man's genitals while he gyrated around a pole. Would that man feel grateful for the chance to earn a little money and contribute to the economy of the borough or would he feel supported by his council in taking a clear stance against tolerating the existence of sexual entertainment venues?
28	The two new conditions, 38 and 45, should be adopted immediately and without prejudice.
29	There was a meeting of the licensing committee recently and I'm worried that the Tories are going to try to remove the nil cap which is really important for me as it sends a clear message that Southend does not think the sexual objectification of women for entertainment of men is OK. Some Tory councillors apparently talked about the "need" for lap dancing clubs and "a man's right" to go to one. I'm struggling with both those ideas to be honest!
30	No comment
31	Ridiculous! This attitude stating nowhere is appropriate as a location for sex shops is ridiculous. When you then go on about how you will take consideration of applications. What is the point when you already stated nowhere is suitable. Sex is a natural part of life. Considering sex lifestyle shops inappropriate is backward and retrograde step in the wrong direction. I am a therapist who deals with sexual shame and mental health issues due to this sort of attitude trying to wipe this out of the area is exactly what we don't need. Sex shops are a part of society and driving this underground through this denial of the valuable service places people at risk of exploitation from unscrupulous and illegal activities. This is effectively prohibition that is proven time and time again not to work. Get real Southend council you're trying to take Southend back to the 1800's with this backward and Victorian attitude.
32	I would like to express my views with regards for the need of sex establishments in our local area. I live and work with the most vulnerable young people in society, I also counsel adults with various addictions including sex. In my opinion there is a misconception that these establishments are 'filling a need', let me explain where that need comes from. In early childhood development the narcissistic needs should be met, if that early childhood development gets deregulated for whatever reason, the person throughout life will continue to search for something to fill that need. The sex industry is just one of many ways for that need to be met. The people involved will get a temporary fix, either through financial reward or arousal, once that has happened both parties will eventually feel a low sense of self-worth, there are no winners. The short term fix will never compensate for the long-term low self-worth developed when quietly reflecting by themselves. Humans are fantastic at justifying anything, that is why we have so much depression in our world, the message of 'its harmless', 'it is okay, from my experience is not worth the price of the deep routed negative self-worth for all involved. Once again, in my opinion, more investment is needed to help those who are objectified and those that watch, if they are helped to understand why they have reached this level of need in their lives, that an alternative to thinking and feeling is available, I feel they will choose

the healthy option, all the time these establishments are there, the need to change will not be available.

Breakdown of respondents



62% - Female

15% - Male

10% - prefer not to say