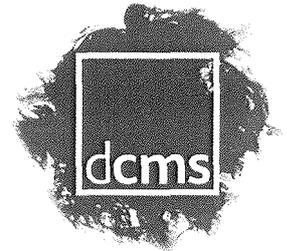


CMS 182857/DC



department for
culture, media
and sport

David Amess MP and Katy Clark MP
Chairs
Public Bill Committee – London Olympic
Games and Paralympic Games
(Amendment) Bill
House of Commons
LONDON
SW1A 0AA

September 2011

Dear David and Katy,

LONDON OLYMPICS GAMES AND PARALYMPICS GAMES (AMENDMENT) BILL

I am writing with details of the amendments to the London Olympic Games and Paralympic Games (Amendment) Bill which I have tabled today in relation to the handling of seized goods in Scotland and the relaxation of environmental conditions attached to freight operator licences.

Handling of seized goods in Scotland

The first group of amendments ensure that, in Scotland, both constables and ODA enforcement officers have the power to hold articles seized for infringement of advertising and trading regulations made under the London Olympic Games and Paralympic Games Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). The intention is that the police and ODA have the flexibility to agree enforcement practices amongst themselves. In this respect, the provisions of the 2006 Act that deal with seized articles will, in Scotland, mirror equivalent provisions in the Glasgow Commonwealth Games Act 2008. These amendments enable the effective enforcement of the advertising and street trading provisions in Scotland and reflect the policy and enforcement practices which are favoured by the Scottish police, the Crown Office in Scotland and Scottish Government Officials. The amendments also make related minor and technical amendments to the advertising and trading provisions of the 2006 Act.

Changes to licences for freight operators

The second group of amendments will amend the 2006 Act to provide an expedited process for applications from goods vehicle operators who wish to seek, at short notice, a temporary variation to the environmental conditions, in particular hours of operation, attached to a goods vehicle operator licence. Any temporary variation granted to an operator will last only for the duration of the 2012 Games period. These amendments are being sought to facilitate changes in the goods vehicle operating patterns at Games time to help maintain business activity during a period of exceptional pressure on the road transport system.

This letter will be copied to members of the Committee and a copy will be placed on the DCMS website.

Yours etc,

Hg

HUGH ROBERTSON MP
Minister for Sport and the Olympics