



POLICING AND CRIME BILL
House of Commons Committee Stage

Suggested amendments

PART 1: POLICE REFORM

Clause 1, page 1, line 8 at end insert-

“(1A) In section 6 of the Police Act 1996 (c.16) after (2) insert-

“(2A) Every police authority must make arrangements to obtain the views of children and young people in their area about policing in that area.” “

Purpose

This is a probing amendment designed to gain further information from the Government about how the police will canvass public opinion and how specifically this will include the views of children and young people.

PART 2: SEXUAL OFFENCES AND SEX ESTABLISHMENTS

Prostitution

Clause 15, page 14, line 28, after “person” insert “aged 18 or over”

Purpose

The aim of the amendment is to decriminalise the offence of loitering or soliciting for the purposes of prosecution for children aged 17 and under.

Paying for sexual services of a prostitute controlled for gain

Clause 13, page 13, line 28 after ‘person’ insert ‘aged 18 years or above’

Clause 14, page 14, line 9 ‘person’ insert ‘aged ‘18 years or above’

Purpose

To exempt children from the offence of paying for sexual services of a prostitute controlled for gain

Soliciting

Clause 18, page 17, line 5 ‘person’ insert ‘aged ‘18 years or above’

Clause 19, page 17, line 17 ‘person’ insert ‘aged ‘18 years or above’

Purpose

To exempt children from the offence of soliciting

Closure Orders

Schedule 2, page 113, line 24, at end insert—

‘(10) If a child under 18 is resident on the premises, no action shall be taken until a multi-agency assessment of the child’s needs has taken place.’

Purpose

Probing amendment to establish how the Government plans to respond to the needs of any children made temporarily homeless due to the making of closure orders.

PART 3: ALCOHOL MISUSE

Clause 28: Confiscating alcohol from young persons

Page 22, line 26, leave out clause 28

Purpose

To prevent the amendment to police’s existing power to confiscate alcohol from young people in a public place which would allow them to require a young person to give their name and address; to return the individual to their home or a place of safety if under the age of 18 and remove the requirement to prove that an individual intends to consume the alcohol.

Clause 29: Offence of persistently possessing alcohol in a public place

Page 22, line 32, leave out clause 29

Purpose

To remove the proposed offence of persistently possessing alcohol in a public place from the Bill

Clause 30: Directions to individuals who represent a risk to disorder

Clause 30, page 23, line 24 leave out ‘aged 10 or over’ and insert ‘ aged 18 or over’.

Purpose

To prevent the extension of the Directions to Leave provision to 11-15 year olds and also amend s.27(1) to exclude 16 and 17 year olds.

For further information please contact:

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The **Standing Committee for Youth Justice (SCYJ)** is a membership body which:

- Provides a forum for organisations, primarily in the non-statutory sector, working to promote the welfare of children who become engaged in the youth justice system; and
- Advocates a child-focussed youth justice system that promotes the integration of such children into society and thus serves the best interests of the children themselves and the community at large.

Members are: Action for Children, Association of YOT Managers, Barnardo’s, Catch22, Children Law UK/TACT, The Children’s Society, Children’s Rights Alliance for England, Council for Disabled Children, The Howard League for Penal Reform, Just for Kids Law, JUSTICE, Nacro, National Youth Agency (NYA), National Association for Youth Justice (NAYJ), NCB, NSPCC, The Prince’s Trust, Prison Reform Trust, Sainsbury Centre for Mental Health, Secure Accommodation Network, SOVA and VOICE.

The contents of this briefing do not necessarily reflect the views of all member organisations