

Hi All,

We thought it important to reach out directly to our local Community Anchor Organisation's so they can encourage in their local area, businesses and organisations associated with the tourism and hospitality sector to input into the Visitor Levy Scotland Bill 'Call for Views'.

The Bill is currently at Stage 1 in the legislative programme and the Scottish Parliament's Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee has been appointed as the lead committee scrutinising the Bill. As part of the Committee's consideration of the Bill, it has launched a 'Call for Views' from the tourism and hospitality sector. **The deadline is Friday 15th September 2023.**

Venture North have been spreading awareness of the Bill's 'call for views' as we believe it is vital that as many businesses and organisations as possible have their say on how the Bill is shaped and how it may be implemented going forwards if the Highland Council were to choose to have a Visitor Levy.

**The STA have pulled together an easy-to-read comprehensive summary of the Bill with guidance notes on responding to the questions within the questionnaire – [these can be accessed here.](#)**

There are two ways you can submit evidence to the committee:

1. [A detailed response](#) that has 13 main questions, although respondents are not expected to necessarily answer all of these, but it would be encouraged to respond in this way.
2. [Brief and general comments](#) about the Bill on the Committee's engagement website, which includes the option to upload video and audio messages. This would be the alternative if you didn't have time to input to the 13 main questions.

Venture North recently posted on [Facebook here](#) and released an article on this too, which [can be viewed here](#). Please feel free to share these, the social graphic is attached.

We would very much appreciate if you would spread the word about this consultation to ensure that the Caithness and Sutherland region has their input into how it moves forwards with Tourism being such an integral contributor to our local economies.

Many thanks  
Niamh

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