



Petra Scarborough
Democratic Services Section
Belfast City Council
Chief Executive's Department
City Hall
BELFAST
BT1 5GS

Your ref: PS/MOH

25 February 2013

Dear Petra

BIS-DSD Consultation on Street Trading and Pedlar Legislation

Thank you for your letter of 11th February alerting NILGA to the above consultation and of the request of the Belfast City Council Licensing Committee. I am delighted to be able to tell you, that in advance of your letter, I had already been in contact with James Cunningham and had drafted a NILGA response in liaison with him and his colleagues in a number of other councils. The draft NILGA response was forwarded to councils on the 25 February for comment, further to consideration by the NILGA Executive Committee on 8th February 2013.

Clearly this consultation, if implemented, would have serious consequences for trading and retail in Belfast and for a number of our other more urban councils. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee and the Licensing staff at Belfast City Council for their proactive approach to working in partnership with NILGA on this matter.

Although I hope that the Departments involved will listen to the strong, UK-wide, views of local government on these proposals, I will ensure that NILGA lobbying continues after the consultation closing date, as necessary. Should further work be required, I will ensure that NILGA liaises closely with Belfast City Council on a way forward.

Should you require any further information in relation to NILGA policy work on this or other issues please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'K Smyth'.

Karen Smyth
Head of Policy