

Alan Gerrard
Scottish Community Drama Association (SCDA)
Stirling Enterprise Park
John Player Building
Stirling
FK7 7RP

12 February 2024

Dear Alan

I refer to recent exchanges about the granting of a Body of Persons Approval to the Scottish Community Drama Association (SCDA) – Open and Youth One Act Play Festival for 2024. I am responding as an official with responsibility for licensing arrangements linked to child performances.

Having reviewed your request, I am pleased to confirm Body of Persons Approval for your organisation on the following terms:

The Scottish Ministers in exercise of their powers under section 37(3)(b) of the Children and Young Persons Act 1963 hereby confirm Body of Persons Approval for Scottish Community Drama Association – Open and Youth One Act Play Festival from today's date until 3 June 2026, subject to the following conditions:

- The Body of Persons Approval applies only to Play Festival performances at selected venues and local theatre as outlined in your correspondence of 08 February 2024.
- All appropriate risk assessment processes have been followed and the performances are non-paid performances in theatres and events take place out with school time.
- Relevant child protection policies be fully applied in relation to all activity involving children and young people, both in preparation for, and delivery of any performance by children under the terms of this Body of Persons Approval.
- Scottish Community Drama Association must report all and any cases of suspected abuse or malpractice relating to anyone involved in the Scottish Community Drama Association to the police and any other relevant authorities immediately, and any safeguarding incidents must be dealt with in line with Scottish Community Drama Association procedures. In any such case, the Scottish Community Drama Association must also notify the Scottish Ministers that a report has been made and Scottish Ministers may request such other information as they may reasonably require to

assure them that all child protection policies, procedures and processes have been adhered to in relation to the incident.

You will be aware, the child performance licensing system in Scotland was revised in 2014 and that the Children (Performances and Activities)(Scotland) Regulations 2014 came into effect on 20 February 2015. <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2014/372/regulation/12/made>

While these provisions do not impact on the Body of Persons Approval, the non-statutory guidance may be of assistance in highlighting current good practice, for example with reference to the maximum working hours limits for specified age groups and minimum break periods, etc.

You may wish to note the Scottish Government's National Child Protection Guidance has been recently revised to ensure consistency with the legislative and policy framework and current practice developments. You can access the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland at: [National guidance for child protection in Scotland 2021 - gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot) (www.gov.scot)

I hope this response is helpful and would like to take this opportunity to wish you and the children and young people involved every success with the events you have planned.

Yours sincerely



Paul Gorman
Child Rights Unit