

## **Pool of Model Conditions**

DRAFT

## **Introduction:**

When deciding to grant or vary a premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003, the Licensing Authority may do so subject to conditions which it considers are appropriate in promoting the licensing objectives.

Conditions should be individual to a premise and tailored to meet the individual circumstances of the premise, area and other contextual factors. Standardised conditions often do not reflect the individual aspects of applications and should be avoided.

Conditions which are appropriate to promote the licensing objectives should emerge from the application process and form part of the operating schedule of the premise. The Pool of Model Conditions has been produced to assist applicants to consider and promote the licensing objectives, within the context of their application.

Rotherham consists of a variety of neighbourhoods and communities and the Council encourage applicants to use model conditions, or alternative measures, to ensure that the Licensing Objectives are being promoted, whilst minimising any impact that could be caused by a licensed premise. Applicants should have an understanding of the area where their application is based and should tailor their application to consider any issues that are apparent in that area; model conditions are just one way to do this.

The Pool of Model Conditions is also available to assist any Responsible Authority, and other person, who may consider making a representation to the applicant. These conditions should form a consistent approach in proposing conditions on a premises licence.

The Pool of Model Conditions is not an exhaustive list and it does not restrict applicants, responsible authorities or other persons from proposing alternative conditions. It also does not restrict any reasonable condition on a licence being imposed where it considers it appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

Whilst it is not a Licensing Objective, Public Health is also considered to be a key issue within Rotherham when determining licensing matters and the Council consider it good practice for Public Health to be taken into account when applications are being made. Applicants are encouraged to take into account any relevant data regarding Public Health and amend their application accordingly.

## **CONDITIONS RELATING TO PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER**

It should be noted that certain matters are offences under the Licensing Act 2003. For example it is an offence to be party to the following:-

- Selling or supplying alcohol to a person who is drunk
- Knowingly allow disorderly conduct on licensed premises
- Being the holder of a premises licence or a designated premises supervisor to knowingly keep or to allow to be kept on licensed premises any good that have been imported without payment of duty or which have otherwise been unlawfully imported
- Sale of alcohol to under 18's
- Allowing the presence of children under 16 who are not accompanied by an adult between midnight and 5am at any premises licensed for the sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises, and at any time in premises used exclusively or primarily for the sale and consumption of alcohol.

**Conditions dealing with these matters are therefore not necessary and will not be attached to licences. Applicants should note that the absence of such conditions on any licence does not authorise the commission of such acts as a defence to such offences.**

### **General**

#### **Communication between premises**

Communication devices, connecting premises licence holders, designated premises supervisor's, managers of premises and clubs to local police can provide for rapid response by the police to situations of disorder which may be endangering the customers and staff on the premises.

Such devices could provide two-way communication, enabling licence holders, managers, designated premises supervisors and clubs to report incidents to the police, and enabling the police to warn those operating a large number of other premises of potential trouble makers or individuals suspected of criminal behaviour that are about in a particular area. Licence holders, door supervisors, managers, designated premises supervisors and clubs can warn each other of the presence in an area of such people where these systems are used.

Where a condition requiring the text/radio pager which links the police is attached to a licence it will include the following:-

- The text/pager equipment is kept in working order at all times;
- The pager link is activated, made available to and monitored by a designated premises supervisor or by a responsible member of staff at all times that the premises are open to the public;
- Any police instructions/directions are complied with whenever given; and

- All instances of crime and disorder are reported via the text/radio [ager link by the DPS or responsible member of staff agreed to an agreed police contact point.

In relevant circumstances conditions may be imposed requiring the use and maintenance of such systems.

### Door Supervisors

Conditions relating to the provision of door supervisors and security teams may be valuable in:

- Preventing the admission and ensuring the departure from the premises of the drunk and disorderly, without causing further disorder;
- Keeping out excluded individuals (subject to court bans or imposed by the licence holder);
- Searching and excluding those suspected of carrying illegal drugs, or carrying offensive weapons; and
- Maintaining orderly queuing outside of venues prone to such queuing.

Where door supervisors conducting security activities are required as a condition of licence, they are required to be registered with the Security Industry Authority, and conditions will also be imposed dealing with the number of such supervisors, the displaying of name badges, the carrying of proof of registration, where and at what times door staff should be stationed on the premises, and whether at least one female supervisor should be available (for example, if female customers are to be the subject of body searches).

Door supervisors also have a role to play in ensuring public safety.

### Training of licence holders, door supervisors, and other workers

The Council requires that all persons employed on licensed premises are trained and made aware of their responsibilities in relation to the Act, especially the offences under the Act, and the conditions of the licence.

The Council consider it good practice for license holders, door supervisors and other staff to take part in a variety of training sessions, which could include but is not limited to:

- Safeguarding Children
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults
- Crowd Safety
- Counter-terrorism

Licensed premises will be required to document any training undertaken by staff. Such records will be kept for a minimum of one year and will be made available for inspection on request by an authorised officer or the police.

### Sexual Violence and Vulnerability

All premises are highly recommended to engage with South Yorkshire Police and the Council to implement the 'Ask for Angela' scheme. Appropriate training should be given to staff on the way in which this will be delivered at a premise level.

It is also recommended that licensed premises are able to provide information and signposting to local domestic abuse support services in a discrete and supportive way to those who may need this.

### Single Can Sales

Single Can Sales can contribute to the harms relating to alcohol misuse, and particularly contribute to the harm caused to children and young people. Conditions may therefore be necessary to prevent sales of single cans of alcoholic drinks in areas where risk of harm is identified to be high.

### Bottle bans

Bottle may be used as weapons inflicting more serious harm during incidents of disorder. Conditions may therefore be necessary to prevent sales of drinks in their bottles for consumption on the premises. However, the Council notes evidence that many women consider that drinking from bottles to be safer as it is easier for them to prevent the possible spiking of drinks with drugs in bottles the openings of which may be readily covered. These issues will therefore need to be carefully balanced when specifying such conditions.

### Plastic containers and Toughened Glass

Glasses containing drinks may be used as weapons during incidents of disorder and can cause serious injuries. Consideration should therefore be given to conditions requiring either the use of plastic containers or toughened glass, that inflict less severe injuries. The location and style of the venue and the activities carried on there will be particularly considered in assessing whether such a condition is necessary. For example, the use of glass containers on the terraces of outdoor sports grounds may obviously be of concern, but similar concerns may also apply to indoor sports events such as boxing matches. Similarly, the use of such plastic containers or toughened glass during the televising of live sporting events, such as international football matches, when high states of excitement and emotion fuelled by alcohol might arise, may be a necessary condition. The use of plastic or paper drinks containers may also be relevant as measures to promote public safety.

### CCTV

The presence of closed circuit television cameras can be an important means of deterring and detecting crime at and immediately outside licensed premises. Where such conditions are necessary there will also be requirement to maintain cameras in working order, and to retain recordings for an appropriate period time. The approval of the police will be required as to the type and positioning of the equipment to be used.

### Open containers not to be taken from the premises

Drinks purchased in licensed premises or clubs may be taken from those premises for consumption elsewhere. Where premises are licensed for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises that would be entirely lawful. However, consideration may be given to a condition preventing the taking of alcoholic and other drinks from the premises in open containers (e.g. glasses and opened bottles). This may be necessary to prevent the use of these containers as offensive weapons in surrounding streets after individuals have left the premises.

Restrictions on taking open containers from the premises may also be a relevant necessary measure to prevent public nuisance.

### Restrictions on drinking areas

It may be necessary to restrict the areas where alcoholic drinks may be consumed in the premises after they have been purchased from the bar. An example would be a sports ground where it may be necessary to prevent the consumption of alcohol on the terracing of sports grounds during particular sports events. Such conditions will not only specify these areas, but indicate the circumstances in which the ban would apply and times at which it should be complied with.

Restrictions on drinking areas may also be relevant necessary measures to prevent public nuisance.

### Capacity limits

Although most commonly considered as a condition of a licence on public safety grounds, consideration may also be given to conditions that set capacity limits for licensed premises or clubs where it may be necessary to prevent overcrowding which can lead to disorder and violence. Where such a condition is considered necessary, consideration may also be given to appropriate door supervisors needed to ensure that the numbers are appropriately controlled.

### Proof of Age Cards

It is unlawful for children under 18 to attempt to buy alcohol just as it is unlawful to sell or supply alcohol to them. To prevent such crimes, it may be necessary to require a policy to be applied at certain licensed premises requiring the production of "proof of age" before such sales are made. Such a condition may also make provision for the production of other proof, such as photo-driving licences, student cards and passports to be acceptable.

The wording of any condition requires careful thought. For example many premises have adopted the "Challenge 21" or "Challenge 25" or other similar initiatives. Under Challenge 21/Challenge 25 those premises selling or supplying alcohol require sight of evidence of age from any person appearing to be under the age of 21/25 and who is attempting to buy alcohol.

Proof of age may also be relevant and necessary to protect children from harm.

### Crime prevention notices

It may be necessary at some premises for notices to be displayed that warn customers of the prevalence of crime that may target them. For example, in certain areas, a condition attached to a premises licence or club premises certificate might require the displaying of notices at the premises which warn customers about the need to be aware of pickpockets or bag snatchers, and to guard their property. Similarly, it may be necessary for notices to be displayed, which advise customers not to leave bags unattended because of concerns about terrorism. Consideration may also be given to a condition requiring a notice to display the name of a contact for customers if they wish to report concerns.

### Drinks promotions

Standard conditions will not be attached to premises licence or club premises certificates which promote fixed prices for alcoholic drinks. Conditions tailored to the individual circumstances of particular premises, which address irresponsible drinks promotions, may be considered where it is considered this is necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

Irresponsible promotions are addressed through mandatory licensing conditions. The licensing authority however will be objective when considering whether a promotion is responsible or irresponsible within the context of the licensing objectives.

### Signage

It may be necessary for the normal hours under the terms of the premises licence or club premises certificate at which licensable activities are permitted to take place.

Similarly, it may be necessary for any restrictions on the admission of children to be displayed on or immediately outside the premises so that the consequences of breaches of these conditions would also be clear and to deter those who might seek admission in breach of those conditions.

Furthermore, signage promoting the responsible consumption of alcohol is encouraged to be added across the venue. For example, Drink Aware publicity material would be encouraged across a venue to promote responsible drinking habits.

### Large Capacity Venues used exclusively or primarily for the “vertical” consumption of alcohol (HVVDs)

Large capacity “vertical drinking” premises, sometimes called High Volume Drinking Establishments (HVVDs) are premises which have exceptionally high capacities, used primarily or exclusively for the sale and consumption of alcohol and little or no seating for patrons.

Where necessary and appropriate conditions can be attached to licences for these premises which require adherence to:

- A prescribed capacity

- An appropriate ratio of tables and chairs to customers based on the capacity; and
- The presence of security staff holding the appropriate SIA licence or exemption to control entry for the purpose of compliance with the capacity limit.



## **CONDITIONS RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY**

### **General**

The following options will be considered as measures that, if necessary, would promote public safety. It should be recognised however that special issues might arise in connection with outdoor and large-scale events.

Whether or not any risk assessment shows any of the measures to be necessary in the individual circumstances of any premises will depend on a range of factors including the nature and style of the venue, the activities being conducted there, the location of the premises and the anticipated clientele of the business involved.

Necessary conditions of the licence or certificate will also depend on local knowledge of the character and vicinity of the premises.

In addition, to considering the points made in this Annex, those preparing operating schedules or club operating schedules, and responsible authorities should consider:

- Model National and Standard Conditions for Place of Public Entertainment and Associated Guidance ISBN 1 904031 11 0 (Entertainment Technology Press – ABTT Publications)
- The Event Safety Guide – A guide to health, safety and welfare at music and similar events (HSE 1999) (“The Purple Book”) ISBN 0717624536
- Managing Crowds Safely (HSE 2000) ISBN 9780717618347
- Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds (The Stationery Office, 2008) (“The Green Guide 5<sup>th</sup> Edition”) ISBN 978 0 11 702074 0
- Safety Guidance for Street Arts, Carnival, Processions and Large Scale Performances published by the Independent Street Arts Network, copies of which may be obtained through <http://www.streetartsnetwork.org.uk/>
- Fire Safety Risk Assessment – Small and Medium Places of Assembly ISBN 978185112820-4
- Fire Safety Risk Assessment – Large Places of Assembly ISBN 978185112821-1
- The Fire Safety (Regulatory Reform) Order 2005
- The following British Standards should also be considered:
  - BS 9999 : 2008
  - BS 5839 : Part 1 : 2002 (Fire Detection/Fire Alarms)
  - BS 5266 : Part 1 : 2005 (Emergency Lighting)

### Harms associated to alcohol

It is well evidenced that the excessive consumption of alcohol can have significant harms on individuals and that licensees have an important role in promoting responsible drinking. Consideration will be given to conditions which ensure that:

- Premises promote a good range of low-alcohol or alcohol-free drinks to enable customers to choose drinks with a lower alcohol volume. These should be readily available and of a similar price to alcoholic equivalents.
- The premise does not promote any reduced drink price through a promotion, to promote responsible drinking.
- A premise has a process to provide details of local alcohol support services to customers in a discrete and supportive way.

### Disabled People

Consideration will also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- When disabled people are present, adequate arrangements exist to enable their safe evacuation in the event of an emergency: and
- Disabled people and all employed staff on the premises are made aware of those arrangements.

### Escape routes

It may be necessary to include conditions relating to the maintenance of all escape routes and exits including external exists. These might be expressed in terms of the need to ensure that such exits are kept unobstructed, in good order with non-slippery and even surfaces, free of trip hazards and clearly identified. In restaurants and other premises where chairs and tables are provided this might also include ensuring that internal gangways are kept unobstructed.

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public, consideration might also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- All exits doors are easily opened without the use of a key, card, code or similar means;
- Doors at such exits are regularly checked to ensure that they function satisfactorily and a record of the check kept;
- Any security fastenings are removed prior to the premises being open to the public;
- All fire doors are maintained effectively self-closing and shall not be held open;

- Fire resisting doors to ducts, service shafts, and cupboards shall be kept locked shut; and
- The edges of the treads of steps and stairways are maintained so as to be conspicuous.

### Safety checks

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- Safety checks are carried out before the admission of the public; and
- Details of such checks are kept in a Log Book.

### Curtains, hangings, decorations and upholstery

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- Hangings, curtains and temporary decorations are maintained in a flame-retardant condition;
- Any upholstered seating meets on a continuous basis the pass criteria for smouldering ignition source 0, flaming ignition source 1 and crib ignition source 5 when tested in accordance with section 5 of BS 5852:1990;
- Curtains, hangings and temporary decorations are arranged so as not to obstruct exits, fire safety signs or fire-fighting equipment; and
- Temporary decorations are not used without the prior written consent of the licensing authority.

### Accommodation limits

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that:

- Arrangements are made to ensure that any capacity limit imposed under the premises licence or club premises certificate are not exceeded; and
- The licence holder, a club official, manager or designated premises supervisor are aware of the number of people on the premises and required to inform any authorised person on request.

### Fire action notices

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that:

- Notices detailing the actions to be taken in the event of fire or other emergencies, including how the fire brigade should be summoned, are prominently displayed and protected from damage and deterioration.

### Outbreaks of fire

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that:

- The fire brigade service must be called at once to any outbreak of fire, however slight, and the details recorded in a Fire Log-book.

### Loss of water

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that:

- The local Fire Control Centre are notified as soon as possible if the water supply to any hydrant, hose reel, sprinkler, drencher or other fire extinguishing installation is cut off or restricted.

### Access for emergency vehicles

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that:

- Access for emergency vehicles is kept clear and free from obstruction.

### First Aid

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that:

- Adequate and appropriate supply of first aid equipment and materials is available on the premises.
- If necessary, at least one suitably trained first aider shall be on duty when the public are present; and if more than one suitably trained first aider that their respective duties are clearly defined.

## Lighting

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that:

- In the absence of adequate daylight, the lighting in any area accessible to the public, members or guests shall be fully in operation when they are present.
- Fire safety signs are adequately illuminated.
- Emergency lighting is not to be altered without the written consent of the licensing authority
- Emergency lighting batteries are fully charged before the admission of the public, members or guests.
- In the event of the failure of normal lighting, where the emergency lighting battery has a capacity of one hour, arrangements are in place to ensure that the public, members or guests leave the premises within 20 minutes unless within that time normal lighting has been restored and the battery is being re-charged; and if the emergency lighting battery has a capacity of three hours, the appropriate period by the end of which the public should have left the premises is one hour.

## Temporary electrical installations

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that:

- Temporary electrical wiring and distribution systems are not provided without notification to the licensing authority at least ten working days before the commencement of the work.
- Temporary electrical wiring and distribution systems shall comply with the recommendations of BS 7671 or where applicable BS 7909.
- Temporary electrical wiring and distribution systems are inspected and certified by a competent qualified person before they are put to use.

## Ventilation

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that:

- The premises are effectively ventilated and verified as such by the licensing authority.

- Where the ventilation system is designed to maintain positive air pressure within part of the premises, that pressure is maintained whenever the public, member or guests are present in that part of the premises.
- Ventilation ducting is kept clean.
- Air filters are periodically cleaned and replaced to maintain air supply.

### Indoor Sports Entertainments

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that:

- If necessary, an appropriately qualified medical practitioner is present throughout a sports entertainment involving boxing, wrestling, judo, karate or other sports entertainment of a similar nature.
- Where a ring is involved, it is constructed and supported to the satisfaction of the licensing authority and any material used to form the skirt around the ring is flame-retardant.
- At any wrestling or other entertainments of a similar nature members of the public do not occupy any seat within 2.5 meters of the ring.
- At water sports entertainments, staff adequately trained in rescue and life safety procedures are stationed and remain within the vicinity of the water at all material times (see also *Managing Health and Safety in Swimming Pools* issued jointly by the Health and Safety Commission and Sport England)

### Conditions Relating to Theatres and Cinemas

In addition to the points made above, there are particular matters in the context of public safety and fire safety, which should be considered in connection with theatres and cinemas. The points, which follow, are examples of the types of specialised conditions that may be necessary for these premises.

### **Premises used for Closely Seated Audiences**

#### Attendants

- a) The number of attendants on each floor in a closely seated auditorium be required in accordance with the following formula:

Number of members of the audience present on a floor	Minimum number of attendants required to be present on that floor
1 – 100	One
101 – 250	Two
251 – 500	Three

201 – 750	Four
751 – 1000	Five
And one additional attendant for each additional 250 persons (or part thereof)	

- b) Attendants shall not be engaged in any duties that would hinder the prompt discharge of their duties in the event of an emergency or entail their absence from that floor or auditorium where they are on duty.
- c) Any attendant shall be readily identifiable to the audience (but this need not entail the wearing of a uniform).
- d) The premises shall not be used for a closely seated audience except in accordance with seating plan(s), a copy of which is available at the premises and shall be shown to any authorised person on request.
- e) No article shall be attached to the back of any seat, which would reduce the clear width of gangways or cause a tripping hazard or obstruction.
- f) A copy of any certificate relating to the design, construction and loading of any temporary seating shall be kept available at the premises and shall be shown to any authorised person on request.

#### Standing and Sitting in Gangways etc

- a) Sitting on floors shall not be permitted except where authorised in the premises licence or club premises certificate.
- b) Waiting or standing shall not be permitted except in areas designated in the premises licence or club premises certificate.
- c) In no circumstances shall anyone be permitted to
  - i) sit in any gangway
  - ii) stand or sit in front of any exit; or
  - iii) stand or sit on any staircase including any landings

#### Drinks

Except as authorised by the premises licence or club premises certificate, no drinks shall be sold to or be consumed by a closely seated audience except in plastic and paper containers.

#### Balcony Fronts

Clothing or other objects shall not be placed over balcony rails or upon balcony fronts.

### Special effects

Any special effects or mechanical installation should be arranged and stored so as to minimise any risk to the safety of the audience, the performers and staff. Special effects include:

- Dry ice machines and cryogenic fog
- Smoke machines and fog generators
- Pyrotechnics, including fireworks
- Real flame
- Firearms
- Motor vehicles
- Strobe lighting
- Lasers (see HSE Guide Safety of lasers used for display purposes [HS(G)95] and BS EN 60825: Safety of laser products)
- Explosives and highly flammable substances

In certain circumstances, it may be necessary to require that certain special effects may only be used with the prior consent of the licensing authority.

### Scenery

Any scenery should be maintained flame-retardant.

### Safety Curtain

Where a safety curtain is necessary, it should be arranged so as to protect the audience from the effects of fire or smoke on stage for sufficient time to enable the safe evacuation of the auditorium.

Where a stage with a proscenium arch is not equipped with a safety curtain, any curtains provided between the stage and the auditorium should be heavyweight and be made of non combustible material or inherently or durably treated flame-retarded fabric.

### Ceilings

All ceilings in those parts of the premises to which the audience are admitted should be inspected by a suitably qualified person every five years and a certificate concerning the condition of the ceilings forwarded to the licensing authority.

### Seating

Where the potential audience exceeds 250 all seats in the auditorium should, except in boxes accommodating not more than 8 persons, be either securely fixed to the floor or battened together in lengths of not fewer than four or more than twelve.



## **Premises used for Film Exhibitions**

### **Attendants – premises without a staff alerting system**

Where the premises are not equipped with a staff alerting system the number of attendants present should be as set out in the table below:

<b>Number of members of the audience present on the premises</b>	<b>Minimum number of attendants required to be on duty</b>
1 – 250	Two
<b>And one additional attendant for each additional 250 members of the audience present (or part thereof)</b>	
Where there are more than 150 members of an audience in any auditorium or any floor	At least one attendant shall be present in any auditorium or on any floor

### **Attendants – with a staff alerting system**

- a) Where premises are equipped with a staff alerting system the number of attendants present should be as set out in the table below:

Number of members of the audience present on the premises	Minimum number of attendants required to be on duty	Minimum number of staff on the premises who are available to assist in the event of an emergency
1 – 500	Two	One
501 – 1000	Three	Two
1001 – 1500	Four	Four
1501 or more	Five plus one for every 500 (or part thereof) persons over 2000 on the premises	Five plus one for every 500 (or part thereof) persons over 2000 on the premises

- b) Staff shall not be considered as being available to assist in the event of an emergency if they are:
- i) the holder of the premises licence or the manager on duty at the premises; or
  - ii) a member of staff whose normal duties or responsibilities are likely to significantly affect or delay his response in an emergency situation; or
  - iii) a member of staff whose usual location when on duty is more than 60 metres from the location to which he is required to go on being alerted to an emergency situation.
- c) Attendants shall as far as reasonably practicable be evenly distributed throughout all parts of the premises to which the public have access and keep under observation all parts of the premises to which the audience have access.
- d) The staff alerting system shall be maintained in working order.

### Minimum Lighting

The level of lighting in the auditorium should be as great as possible consistent with the effective presentation of the film; and the level of illumination maintained in the auditorium during the showing of films would normally be regarded as satisfactory if it complies with the standards specified in BS CP 1007: Maintained Lighting for Cinemas.

### Flammable films

No flammable films should be allowed on the premises without the consent of the licensing authority.

## **CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE**

It should be noted that provisions of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and the Noises Act 1996 provide some protection to the general public from the effects of noise nuisance. In addition, the provisions in Part 8 of the Licensing Act 2003 enable a senior police officer to close down instantly for up to 24 hours licensed premises and premises carrying on permitted temporary activities that are causing noise nuisance resulting from noise emanating from the premises. These matters will be considered before deciding whether or not conditions are necessary for the prevention of public nuisance.

### **General**

When applicants for premises licences or club premises certificates are preparing their operating schedules or club operating schedules and responsible authorities are considering such applications the Council, as licensing authority is considering following the receipt of relevant representations from a responsible authority or interested party, the following options may be considered as necessary, would promote the prevention of public nuisance.

Whether or not any risk assessment shows them to be necessary in the individual circumstances of any premises will depend on a range of factors including the nature and style of the venue, the activities being conducted there, the location of the premises and the anticipated clientele of the business involved.

Necessary conditions for licences and certificates will also depend on local knowledge of the character and the vicinity of the premises.

### **Hours**

The hours during which the premises are permitted to be open to the public or to members and their guests may be restricted (other than where they are protected by the transitional provisions of the Licensing Act 2003) to less than those applied for by the imposing of conditions of a premises licence or a club premises certificate for the prevention of public nuisance. But this will be balanced by the potential impact on disorder that could result from artificially early fixed closing times.

Restrictions may be necessary on the times when certain licensable activities take place even though the premises may be open to the public at such times. For example, the playing of recorded music after a certain time might be prohibited, even though other licensable activities are permitted to continue.

Restrictions may be necessary on the parts of premises that might be used for certain licensable activities at certain times. For example, while the provision of regulated entertainment might be permitted while the premises is open to the public or members and their guests, regulated entertainment might not be permitted in garden areas of the premises after a certain time.

### Noise and vibration

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the prevention of public nuisance, consideration may be given to conditions that ensure that:

- Noise or vibration does not emanate from the premises so as to cause a nuisance to nearby properties. This might be achieved by a requirement to keep doors and windows at the premises closed, or to use noise limiters on amplification equipment used at the premises.
- Prominent clear and legible notices are displayed at all exits requesting the public to respect the needs of local residents and to leave the premises and the area quietly.
- The use of explosives, pyrotechnics and fireworks of a similar nature which could cause disturbance in surrounding areas being restricted or prohibited.
- The placing of refuse – such as bottles – into receptacles outside the premises takes place at times that will minimise the disturbance to nearby properties.

### Noxious smells

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the prevention of public nuisance, consideration may be given to conditions that ensure that:

- Noxious smells from licensed premises are not permitted so as to cause a nuisance to nearby properties and the premises are properly vented.

### Light pollution

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the prevention of public nuisance, consideration may be given to conditions that ensure that:

- Flashing or particularly bright lights on or outside licensed premises do not cause a nuisance to nearby properties. The need for any such condition will be balanced against the benefits to the prevention of crime and disorder of bright lighting in certain places.

### Litter

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the prevention of public nuisance, consideration may be given to conditions that ensure that:

- Litter is properly controlled through a waste management strategy agreed with the licensing authority, and that conditions to prevent unlawful advertising in relation to those premises are imposed.

## **CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM**

It should be noted that it is unlawful under the 2003 Act to permit unaccompanied children under the age of 16 to be present on premises exclusively or primarily used for the supply of alcohol for consumption on those premises under the authorisation of a premises licence, club premises certificate or a temporary event notice when open for the purposes of being used for the supply of alcohol for consumption there.

In addition, it is an offence to permit the presence of children under 16 who are not accompanied by an adult between midnight and 5am at all premises supplying alcohol for consumption on those premises under the authorisation of any premises licence, club premises certificate or temporary event notice. Conditions duplicating these provisions are therefore unnecessary.

### **Requirements for safeguarding measures relevant to licence holders and workers**

It is strongly recommended that persons employed on licensed premises, in particular those providing facilities and or entertainment for children and youths, receive appropriate training covering the safeguarding of children and other vulnerable groups and, if appropriate, have the necessary DBS checks.

### **Access for children to licensed premises – in general**

Restrictions on the access of children under 18 to premises where licensable activities are being carried on will be considered where it is necessary to protect children from harm.

For any premises with known associations (having been presented with evidence at a hearing) with underage drinking, drugs, significant gambling, or any activity or entertainment (whether regulated entertainment or not) of a clearly adult or sexual nature, there will be a strong presumption against permitting any access at all for children less than 18 years.

Applicants wishing to allow access for children to premises where these associations may be relevant, when preparing operating schedules or club operating schedules or variations of those schedules for the purposes of obtaining or varying a premises licence or club premises certificate should:

- Explain their reasons; and
- Outline in detail the steps that they intend to take to protect children from harm on such premises.

For any premises, not serving alcohol for consumption on the premises, but where the public are allowed on the premises after 10pm in the evening, there will be a presumption against the presence of children under the age of 12 unaccompanied by adults after that time.

Applicants wishing to allow access when preparing operating schedules or variations of those schedules or club operating schedules for the purposes of obtaining or varying a premises licence or club premises certificate should:

- Explain their reasons; and
- Outline in detail the steps that they intend to take to protect children from harm on such premises.

In any other case, subject to the premises licence holder or club's discretion, the expectation would be for unrestricted access for children of any age to premises. Where an applicant intends to exclude children totally from the premises then this should be made clear on the operating schedule.

#### The Portman Group Code of Practice on the Naming, Packaging and Promotion of Alcoholic Drinks

The Portman Group operates on behalf of the alcohol industry a Code of Practice on the naming, packaging and promotion of alcoholic drinks. The code seeks to ensure that drinks are packaged and promoted in a socially responsible manner and only to those who are 18 years or older. Complaints about products under the code are considered by the Independent Complaints Panel and the Panels decisions are published on the Portman Groups website, in the trade press and in annual report. If products packaging or point of sale advertising is found to be in breach of the Code the Portman Group may issue a Retailer Alert Bulletin to notify retailers of the decision and ask them not to replenish stocks of any such product until the decision has been complied with. The Code is an important mechanism in protecting children from harm because it addresses the naming, marketing and promotion of alcoholic products sold in licensed premises in a manner which may appeal to or attract minors.

Consideration may be given to attaching conditions to premises licences and club premises certificates that require compliance with the Portman Groups Retailer Alert Bulletins.

#### Age Restrictions – specific

Under the 2003 Act a wide variety of licensable activities could take place at various types of premises and at different times of the day and night. It may be appropriate to allow children unrestricted access at particular times and when certain activities are not taking place. However, following representations made by responsible authorities and interested parties it may be necessary to consider a range of conditions that are tailored to the particular premises and their activities where these are necessary. The following will be expected to be considered:

- The times of during when age restrictions should and should not apply. For example, the fact that adult entertainment may be presented at premises after 8pm does not mean that it would be necessary to impose age restrictions for earlier parts of the day. Any conditions imposed would clarify the position.
- Types of event or activity in respect of which no age restrictions may be needed, for example;
  - Family entertainment; or
  - Non-alcohol events for young age groups such as under 18s dances

- Similarly, types of event or activity which give rise to a more acute need for age restrictions than normal, for example;
  - During “Happy Hours” or on drinks promotion nights
  - During activities outlined above.

### Age Restrictions – cinemas

The Secretary of State considers that, in addition to the mandatory condition imposed by virtue of section 20, (requiring the admission of children to films to be restricted in accordance with recommendations given either by a body designated under section 4 of the Video Recordings Act 1984 or by the licensing authority itself), conditions restricting the admission of children to film exhibitions should include:

- A condition that where the licensing authority itself is to make recommendations on the admission of children to films, the cinema or venue operator must submit any film to the authority that it intends to exhibit 28 days before it is proposed to show it. This is to allow the authority time to classify it so that the premises licence holder is able to adhere to any age restrictions then imposed.
- A condition that when films are classified, by either the film classification body as specified in the licence or the licensing authority, they should be classified in the following way;
  - U Universal – suitable for audiences aged four years and over
  - PG – Parental Guidance – some scenes may be unsuitable for young children
  - 12A – Passed only for viewing by persons aged 12 years or older or persons younger than 12 when accompanied by an adult
  - 15 – Passed only for viewing by persons aged 15 years and over
  - 18 – Passed only for viewing by persons aged 18 years and over.
- That conditions specify that immediately before each exhibition at the premises of a film passed by the British Board of Film Classification there shall be exhibited on screen for at least five seconds in such a manner as to be easily read by all persons in the auditorium a reproduction of the certificate of the Board or, as regards a trailer advertising a film, of the statement approved by the Board indicating the classification of the film.
- A condition that when a licensing authority has made a recommendation on the restriction of admission of children to a film, notices are required to be displayed both inside and outside the premises so that persons entering can readily be made aware of the classification attached to any film or trailer. Such a condition might be expressed in the following terms:

“Where a programme includes a film recommended by the licensing authority as falling into the 12, 12A, 15 or 18 category no person appearing to be under the age of 12, under 12 and unaccompanied, 15 or 18 as appropriate shall be admitted to any part of the programme; and the licence holder shall display in

a conspicuous position at each entrance to the premises a notice in the following terms –

PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF [INSERT APPROPRIATE AGE]  
CANNOT BE ADMITTED TO ANY PART OF THE PROGRAMME

Where films of different categories form part of the same programme, the notice shall refer to the oldest age restriction.

This condition does not apply to members of staff under the relevant age provided that the prior written consent of the person's parents or legal guardian has first been obtained".

### Theatres

The admission of children to theatres, as with other licensed premises, is not expected to normally be restricted unless it is necessary to promote the licensing objective of the protection of children from harm. However, theatres may be the venue for a wide range of activities.

The admission of children to the performance of a play is normally expected to be at the licence holder and no condition restricting the access of children to plays should be attached. However, theatres may also present entertainment including, for example, variety shows, incorporating adult entertainment. A condition restricting the admission of children in such circumstances may be necessary. Entertainment may also be presented at theatres specifically for children (see below).

In this circumstance consideration will be given to whether a condition should be attached to premises licences, which requires the presence of a sufficient number of adult staff on the premises to ensure the wellbeing of children present on the premises during any emergency.

### Entertainment especially for children

Where performances are presented especially for children in theatres, cinemas or other places of entertainment (e.g. children's disco) conditions are anticipated to be needed which require:

- An attendant to be stationed in the area(s) occupied by the children, in the vicinity of each exit, provided that on each level occupied by children the minimum number of attendants on duty should be one attendant per 50 children or part thereof.

The licensing authority will, having regard to any representations made by the responsible authorities on the issue, also consider whether or not standing should be allowed. For example, there may be reduced risk for children in the stalls than at other levels or areas in the building.



## Children in performances

There are many productions each year that are one-off shows where the cast is made up almost entirely of children. They may be taking part as individuals or as part of a drama club, stage school or school group. The age of those involved may range from 5 to 18.

The Children (Performances) regulations 1968 as amended set out requirements for children performing in a show. Conditions will not duplicate those regulations. However, if it is necessary to consider imposing conditions, in addition to these requirements, for the promotion of the protection of children from harm then the matters outlined below will be considered:

- Venue – the backstage facilities should be large enough to accommodate safely the number of children taking part in any performance.
- Fire safety – all chaperones and production crew on the show should receive instruction on the fire procedures applicable to the venue prior to the arrival of the children.
- Special effects – it may be inappropriate to use certain special effects, including smoke, dry ice, rapid pulsating or flashing lights, which may trigger adverse reactions especially with regard to children.
- Care of children – theatres, concert halls and similar places are places of work and may contain a lot of potentially dangerous equipment. It is therefore important that children performing at such premises are kept under adult supervision at all times including transfer from stage to dressing room and anywhere else on the premises. It is also important that the children can be accounted for at all times in case of an evacuation or emergency.