

# 10. Conditions attached to premises licences and club premises certificates

## General

- 10.1 This chapter provides further guidance in relation to conditions attached to premises licences and club premises certificates. General principles on licence conditions are set out in Chapter 1 (see paragraph 1.16).
- 10.2 Conditions include any limitations or restrictions attached to a licence or certificate and essentially are the steps or actions that the holder of the premises licence or the club premises certificate will be required to take or refrain from taking in relation to the carrying on of licensable activities at the premises in question. Failure to comply with any condition attached to a licence or certificate is a criminal offence, which on conviction is punishable by a fine of up to £20,000 or up to six months' imprisonment. The courts have made clear that it is particularly important that conditions which are imprecise or difficult for a licence holder to observe should be avoided.
- 10.3 There are three types of condition that may be attached to a licence or certificate: proposed, imposed and mandatory. Each of these categories is described in more detail below.

## Proposed conditions

- 10.4 The conditions that are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives should emerge initially from the risk assessment carried out by a prospective licence or certificate holder, which they should carry out before making their application for a premises licence or club premises certificate. This would be translated into the steps recorded in the operating schedule or club operating schedule, which must also set out the proposed hours during which licensable activities will be conducted and any other hours during which the premises will be open to the public.
- 10.5 It is not acceptable for licensing authorities to simply replicate the wording from an applicant's operating schedule. A condition should be interpreted in accordance with the applicant's intention.

## **Consistency with steps described in operating schedule**

- 10.6 The 2003 Act provides that where an operating schedule or club operating schedule has been submitted with an application and there have been no relevant representations made by responsible authorities or any other person, the licence or certificate must be granted subject only to such conditions as are consistent with the schedule accompanying the application and any mandatory conditions required under the 2003 Act.
- 10.7 Consistency means that the effect of the condition should be substantially the same as that intended by the terms of the operating schedule. If conditions are broken, this may lead to a criminal prosecution or an application for a review and it is extremely important therefore that they should be expressed on the licence or certificate in unequivocal and unambiguous terms. The duty imposed by conditions on the licence holder or club must be clear to the licence holder, club, enforcement officers and the courts.

## **Imposed conditions**

- 10.8 The licensing authority may not impose any conditions unless its discretion has been engaged following receipt of relevant representations and it is satisfied as a result of a hearing (unless all parties agree a hearing is not necessary) that it is appropriate to impose conditions to promote one or more of the four licensing objectives.
- 10.9 It is possible that, in certain cases, where there are other legislative provisions which are relevant and must be observed by the applicant, no additional conditions are appropriate to promote the licensing objectives.

## **Proportionality**

- 10.10 The 2003 Act requires that licensing conditions should be tailored to the size, type, location and characteristics and activities taking place at the premises concerned. Conditions should be determined on a case-by-case basis and standardised conditions which ignore these individual aspects should be avoided. Licensing authorities and other responsible authorities should be alive to the indirect costs that can arise because of conditions. These could be a deterrent to holding events that are valuable to the community or for the funding of good and important causes. Licensing authorities should therefore ensure that any conditions they impose are only those which are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

## Hours of trading

- 10.11 The Government acknowledges that different licensing strategies may be appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives in different areas. The 2003 Act gives the licensing authority power to make decisions regarding licensed opening hours as part of the implementation of its licensing policy statement and licensing authorities are best placed to make decisions about appropriate opening hours in their areas based on their local knowledge and in consultation with responsible authorities. However, licensing authorities must always consider each application and must not impose predetermined licensed opening hours, without giving individual consideration to the merits of each application.
- 10.12 Where there are objections to an application to extend the hours during which licensable activities are to be carried on and the licensing authority determines that this would undermine the licensing objectives, it may reject the application or grant it with appropriate conditions and/or different hours from those requested.
- 10.13 Shops, stores and supermarkets should normally be free to provide sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises at any times when the retail outlet is open for shopping unless there are good reasons, based on the licensing objectives, for restricting those hours.

## The performance of plays

- 10.14 The 2003 Act provides that other than for the purposes of public safety, conditions must not be attached to premises licences or club premises certificates authorising the performance of a play which attempt to censor or modify the content of plays in any way. Any such condition would be ultra vires the 2003 Act.

## Censorship

- 10.15 In general, other than in the context of film classification for film exhibitions, licensing authorities should not use their powers under the 2003 Act to seek to impose conditions which censor the content of any form of regulated entertainment. This is not a proper function of licensing law and cannot be properly related to the licensing objectives. The content of regulated entertainment is a matter which is addressed by existing laws governing indecency and obscenity. Where the concern is about protecting children, their

access should be restricted where appropriate. But no other limitation should normally be imposed.

## **Major art and pop festivals, carnivals, fairs and circuses**

- 10.16 Licensing authorities should publicise the need for the organisers of major festivals and carnivals to approach them at the earliest opportunity to discuss arrangements for licensing activities falling under the 2003 Act. For some events, the organisers may seek a single premises licence to cover a wide range of activities at varied locations within the premises. This would involve the preparation of a substantial operating schedule, and licensing authorities should offer advice and assistance about its preparation.
- 10.17 For other events, applications for many connected premises licences may be made which in combination will represent a single festival. It is important that licensing authorities should publicise the need for proper co-ordination of such arrangements and will need to ensure that responsible authorities are aware of the connected nature of the individual applications.
- 10.18 In the case of circuses and fairgrounds, much will depend on the content of any entertainment presented. For example, at fairgrounds, a good deal of the musical entertainment may be incidental to the main attractions and rides at the fair that are not themselves regulated entertainment.
- 10.19 In addition, in the context of festivals and carnivals, local authorities should bear in mind their ability to seek premises licences from the licensing authority for land or buildings under public ownership within the community in their own name. This could include, for example, village greens, market squares, promenades, community halls, local authority owned art centres and similar public areas where festivals and carnivals might take place. Performers and entertainers would then have no need to obtain a licence or give a temporary event notice themselves to enable them to give performances in these places, although they would need the permission of the local authority to put on the event.

## **Fixed prices**

- 10.20 Licensing authorities should not attach standardised blanket conditions promoting fixed prices for alcoholic drinks to premises licences or club licences or club premises

certificates in an area. This may be unlawful under current law. However, it is important to note that the mandatory conditions made under sections 19A and 73B of the 2003 Act prohibit a number of types of drinks promotions where they give rise to a significant risk to any one of the four licensing objectives; the mandatory conditions also prohibit the sales of alcohol below the permitted price, as defined in paragraph 10.55.

10.21 Where licensing authorities are asked by the police, other responsible authorities or other persons to impose restrictions on promotions in addition to those restricted by the mandatory conditions, they should consider each application on its individual merits, tailoring any conditions carefully to cover only irresponsible promotions in the particular and individual circumstances of any premises where these are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives. In addition, when considering any relevant representations which demonstrate a clear causal link between sales promotions or price discounting and levels of crime and disorder on or near the premises, it would be appropriate for the licensing authority to consider the imposition of a new condition prohibiting irresponsible sales promotions or the discounting of prices of alcoholic beverages at those premises. However, before pursuing any form of restrictions at all, licensing authorities should take their own legal advice.

### **Large capacity venues used exclusively or primarily for the “vertical” consumption of alcohol (HVVDs)**

10.22 Large capacity “vertical drinking” premises, sometimes called High Volume Vertical Drinking establishments (HVVDs), are premises with exceptionally high capacities, which are used primarily or exclusively for the sale and consumption of alcohol, and have little or no seating for patrons. Previous research has demonstrated that the environment within such establishments can have a significant bearing on the likelihood of crime and disorder.

10.23 Where appropriate, conditions can be attached to premises licences for the promotion of the prevention of crime and disorder at such premises that require the premises to observe:

- a prescribed capacity;
- an appropriate ratio of tables and chairs to customers based on the capacity; and
- a requirement that security staff holding the appropriate SIA licence or exemption are

present to control entry for the purpose of compliance with the capacity limit and to deny entry to individuals who appear drunk or disorderly or both.

## **Mandatory conditions in relation to the supply of alcohol**

10.24 The 2003 Act provides for the following mandatory conditions to be included in every licence and/or club premises certificate in the circumstances specified.

### **Designated Premises Supervisor**

10.25 The 2003 Act provides that, where a premises licence authorises the supply of alcohol, it must include a condition that no supply of alcohol may be made at a time when no designated premises supervisor has been specified in the licence or at a time when the designated premises supervisor does not hold a personal licence or the personal licence has been suspended.

10.26 The main purpose of the 'designated premises supervisor' as defined in the 2003 Act is to ensure that there is always one specified individual among these personal licence holders who can be readily identified for the premises where a premises licence is in force. That person will normally have been given day to day responsibility for running the premises by the premises licence holder. The requirements set out in relation to the designated premises supervisor and authorisation of alcohol sales by a personal licence holder do not apply to community premises in respect of which a successful application has been made to disapply the usual mandatory conditions in sections 19(2) and 19(3) of the 2003 Act (see Chapter 4 of this Guidance).

10.27 The 2003 Act does not require a designated premises supervisor or any other personal licence holder to be present on the premises at all times when alcohol is sold. However, the designated premises supervisor and the premises licence holder remain responsible for the premises at all times including compliance with the terms of the 2003 Act and conditions attached to the premises licence to promote the licensing objectives.

### **Authorisation by personal licence holders**

10.28 In addition, every premises licence that authorises the sale of alcohol must require that every supply of alcohol under the premises licence must be made or authorised by a person who holds a personal licence. This in most instances will be the designated premises supervisor who must hold a valid personal licence. Any premises at which alcohol is sold or supplied may employ one or more personal licence holders. This does

not mean that the condition should require the presence of the designated premises supervisor or any other personal licence holder on the premises at all times.

- 10.29 Similarly, the fact that every supply of alcohol must be made under the authority of a personal licence holder does not mean that only personal licence holders can make sales or that they must be personally present at every transaction. A personal licence holder may authorise members of staff to make sales of alcohol but may be absent at times from the premises when a transaction takes place. However, the responsible personal licence holder may not be able to escape responsibility for the actions of anyone authorised to make sales.
- 10.30 "Authorisation" does not imply direct supervision by a personal licence holder of each sale of alcohol. The question arises as to how sales can be authorised. Ultimately, whether an authorisation has been given is a question of fact that would have to be decided by the courts on the evidence before it in the course of a criminal prosecution.
- 10.31 The following factors should be relevant in considering whether or not an authorisation has been given:
- the person(s) authorised to sell alcohol at any particular premises should be clearly identified;
  - the authorisation should have specified the acts which may be carried out by the person who is authorised to supply alcohol;
  - there should be an overt act of authorisation, for example, a specific written statement given to the individual who is authorised to supply alcohol; and
  - there should be in place sensible arrangements for the personal licence holder to monitor the activity that they have authorised on a reasonably regular basis.
- 10.32 It is strongly recommended that personal licence holders give specific written authorisations to individuals whom they are authorising to retail alcohol. A single written authorisation would be sufficient to cover multiple sales over an unlimited period. This would assist personal licence holders in demonstrating due diligence should issues arise with enforcement authorities; and would protect employees if they themselves are challenged in respect of their authority to sell alcohol.
- 10.33 Written authorisation is not a requirement of the 2003 Act and its absence alone could not

give rise to enforcement action.

- 10.34 It must be remembered that whilst the designated premises supervisor or a personal licence holder may authorise other individuals to sell alcohol in their absence, they are responsible for any sales that may be made. Similarly, the premises licence holder remains responsible for ensuring that licensing law and licence conditions are observed at the premises.

## Arrangements for the mandatory licence conditions

- 10.35 The mandatory conditions made under sections 19A and 73B of the 2003 Act (the conditions governing irresponsible promotions, dispensing alcohol directly into the mouth, provision of free tap water, age verification, small measures and the prohibition on sales of alcohol below the permitted price) do not have to be physically included in the licence or certificate but nonetheless will apply to every licence and certificate authorising the sale and supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises. The mandatory conditions set out in section 19 of the 2003 Act (the requirement for a DPS and for all sales to be made or authorised by a personal licence holder) do, however, have to be physically included in the licence. The mandatory aspirational licence conditions do not apply to activities (including the supply of alcohol) authorised by a temporary event notice.
- 10.36 Whereas the initial mandatory conditions in section 19 of the 2003 Act are set out in Annex A of the licence, the additional mandatory conditions made under section 19A of the 2003 Act are treated as if they were included in existing licences and certificates on the date that those conditions came into force.
- 10.37 Following their commencement, the mandatory conditions overrode any pre-existing conditions already included in a licence or certificate insofar as the mandatory conditions were identical to, or inconsistent with or more onerous than, any pre-existing conditions. It is not necessary to record on the face of existing licences and certificates the impact that the introduction of the mandatory conditions has had on pre-existing conditions.

## Irresponsible promotions

- 10.38 Under this condition, the “responsible person” (defined in the 2003 Act as the holder of a premises licence, designated premises supervisor, a person aged 18 or over who is



authorised to allow the sale or supply of alcohol by an under 18 or a member or officer of a club present on the club premises who can oversee the supply of alcohol) should be able to demonstrate that they have taken all reasonable steps to ensure that staff do not carry out, arrange or participate in any irresponsible promotions. An irresponsible promotion is one that fits one of the descriptions below (or is substantially similar), is carried on for the purpose of encouraging the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises and carries a significant risk of leading or contributing to crime and disorder, prejudice to public safety, public nuisance or harm to children. The aim of the condition is to prohibit or restrict promotions which encourage people to drink more than they might ordinarily do and in a manner which does not promote the licensing objectives.

## Drinking games

10.39 Irresponsible promotions can include activities, whether drinking games or not, which may require or encourage individuals to drink a quantity of alcohol within a time limit, or drink as much alcohol as possible within a time limit or otherwise. For example, this may include organised 'drink downing' competitions. This would not prevent the responsible person from requiring all drinks to be consumed or abandoned at, or before, the closing time of the premises. Nor does it necessarily prohibit 'happy hours' as long as these are not designed to encourage individuals to drink excessively or rapidly.

## Large quantities of alcohol for free or a fixed price

10.40 Irresponsible promotions can include the provision of unlimited or unspecified quantities of alcohol free or for a fixed or discounted price. This includes alcohol provided to the public or to a group defined by a particular characteristic, for example, a promotion which offers women free drinks before a certain time or "all you can drink for £10". This condition does not apply to a promotion or discount on alcohol for consumption with a table meal. Promotions can be designed with a particular group in mind (for example, over 65s). A common sense approach is encouraged, which may include specifying the quantity of alcohol included in it or not targeting a group which could become more vulnerable or present a greater risk of crime and disorder as a result of excessive alcohol consumption.

## Prizes and rewards

10.41 The sale, supply or provision of free or discounted alcohol or any other item as a prize to encourage or reward the purchase and consumption of alcohol can be within the definition of an irresponsible promotion. This may include promotions under which free or discounted alcohol is offered as a part of the sale of alcohol, for example, "Buy one and get two free" and "Buy one cocktail and get a second cocktail for 25p". This includes promotions which involve the provision of free or discounted alcohol within the same 24 hour period.

## Sporting events

10.42 Irresponsible promotions can include the provision of alcohol for free or for a discounted price in relation to a sporting event shown on the premises, where the sale, supply or provision of alcohol depends on the outcome of a race, match or other event. For example, this may include offering unlimited drinks based on the outcome of a sporting competition. It also applies to events which are unpredictable, such as offering free double shots for every foul committed in a football match, or heavily reduced drinks for five minutes after a try is scored in a rugby match.

## Posters and flyers

10.43 Irresponsible promotions can also include the sale or supply of alcohol in association with promotional materials on display in or around the premises, which can either be reasonably considered to condone, encourage or glamorise anti social behaviour or refer to the effects of drunkenness in any favourable manner.

## Dispensing alcohol directly into the mouth

10.44 The responsible person (see paragraph 10.38) must ensure that no alcohol is dispensed directly by one person into the mouth of another person. For example, this may include drinking games such as the 'dentist's chair' where a drink is poured continuously into the mouth of another individual and may also prevent a premises from allowing another body to promote its products by employing someone to dispense alcohol directly into customers' mouths. An exception to this condition would be when an individual is unable to drink

without assistance due to a disability.

## Free tap water

- 10.45 The responsible person (see paragraph 10.38) must ensure that free potable tap water is provided on request to customers where it is reasonably available on the premises. What is meant by reasonably available is a question of fact; for example, it would not be reasonable to expect free tap water to be available in premises for which the water supply had temporarily been lost because of a broken mains water supply.

## Age verification

- 10.46 The premises licence holder or club premises certificate holder must ensure that an age verification policy applies to the premises in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol. This must as a minimum require individuals who appear to the responsible person (see paragraph 10.38) to be under the age of 18 years of age to produce on request, before being served alcohol, identification bearing their photograph, date of birth, and a holographic mark.
- 10.47 It is acceptable, and indeed encouraged, for premises to have an age verification policy which requires individuals who appear to the responsible person to be under an age greater than 18 to produce such identification on request. For example, if premises have a policy that requires any individual that appears to be under the age of 21 to produce identification that meets the criteria listed above, this is perfectly acceptable under the mandatory code.
- 10.48 Licence holders should consider carefully what steps they are required to take to comply with the age verification requirements under the 2003 Act in relation to sales of alcohol made remotely. These include sales made online, by telephone and mail order sales, and alcohol delivery services. Each of these sales must comply with the requirements of the 2003 Act. The mandatory condition requires that age verification takes place before a person is served alcohol. Where alcohol is sold remotely (for example, online) or through a telephone transaction, the sale is made at this point but the alcohol is not actually served until it is delivered to the customer. Age verification measures (for example, online age verification) should be used to ensure that alcohol is not sold to any person under the age of 18. However, licence holders should also consider carefully what steps are appropriate to ensure that age verification takes place before the alcohol is served (i.e. physically

delivered) to the customer to be satisfied that the customer is aged 18 or over. It is, therefore, the responsibility of the person serving or delivering the alcohol to ensure that age verification has taken place and that photo ID has been checked if the person appears to be less than 18 years of age.

10.49 The premises licence holder or club premises certificate holder must ensure that staff (in particular staff who are involved in the supply of alcohol) are made aware of the existence and content of the age verification policy applied by the premises.

## Smaller measures

10.50 The responsible person (see paragraph 10.38) shall ensure that the following drinks, if sold or supplied on the premises, are available in the following measures:

- Beer or cider: ½ pint
- Gin, rum, vodka or whisky: 25ml or 35ml
- Still wine in a glass: 125ml

10.51 As well as making the drinks available in the above measures, the responsible person must also make customers aware of the availability of these measures – for example, by making their availability clear on menus and price lists, and ensuring that these are displayed in a prominent, conspicuous place in the relevant premises (for example, at the bar).

10.52 This condition does not apply if the drinks in question are sold or supplied having been made up in advance ready for sale or supply in a securely closed container. For example, if beer is only available in pre-sealed bottles the requirement to make it available in 1/2 pints does not apply.

10.53 The premises licence holder or club premises certificate holder must ensure that staff are made aware of the application of this condition.

## Ban on sales of alcohol below the permitted price

10.54 The relevant person (the holder of the premises licence, the designated premises supervisor (if any) in respect of such a licence, the personal licence holder who makes or

authorises a supply of alcohol under such a licence, or any member or officer of a club present on the premises in a capacity which enables the member or officer to prevent the supply in question) shall ensure that no alcohol is sold or supplied for consumption on or off the premises for a price which is less than the permitted price.

- 10.55 The permitted price is defined as the aggregate of the duty chargeable in relation to the alcohol on the date of its sale or supply and the amount of that duty multiplied by a percentage which represents the rate of VAT chargeable in relation to the alcohol on the date of its sale or supply. Detailed guidance on how to make this calculation and a calculator to determine permitted prices for each product are available on the Home Office website.
- 10.56 Where there is a change to the rate of duty or VAT applying to alcohol (for instance, following a Budget), the relevant person should ensure that the permitted price reflects the new rates within fourteen days of the introduction of the new rate.
- 10.57 It is still permitted to sell alcohol using promotions (as long as they are compatible with any other licensing condition that may be in force), and the relevant person should ensure that the price of the alcohol is not less than the permitted price. Detailed guidance on the use of promotions is given in the guidance document available on the Home Office website.

## Exhibition of films

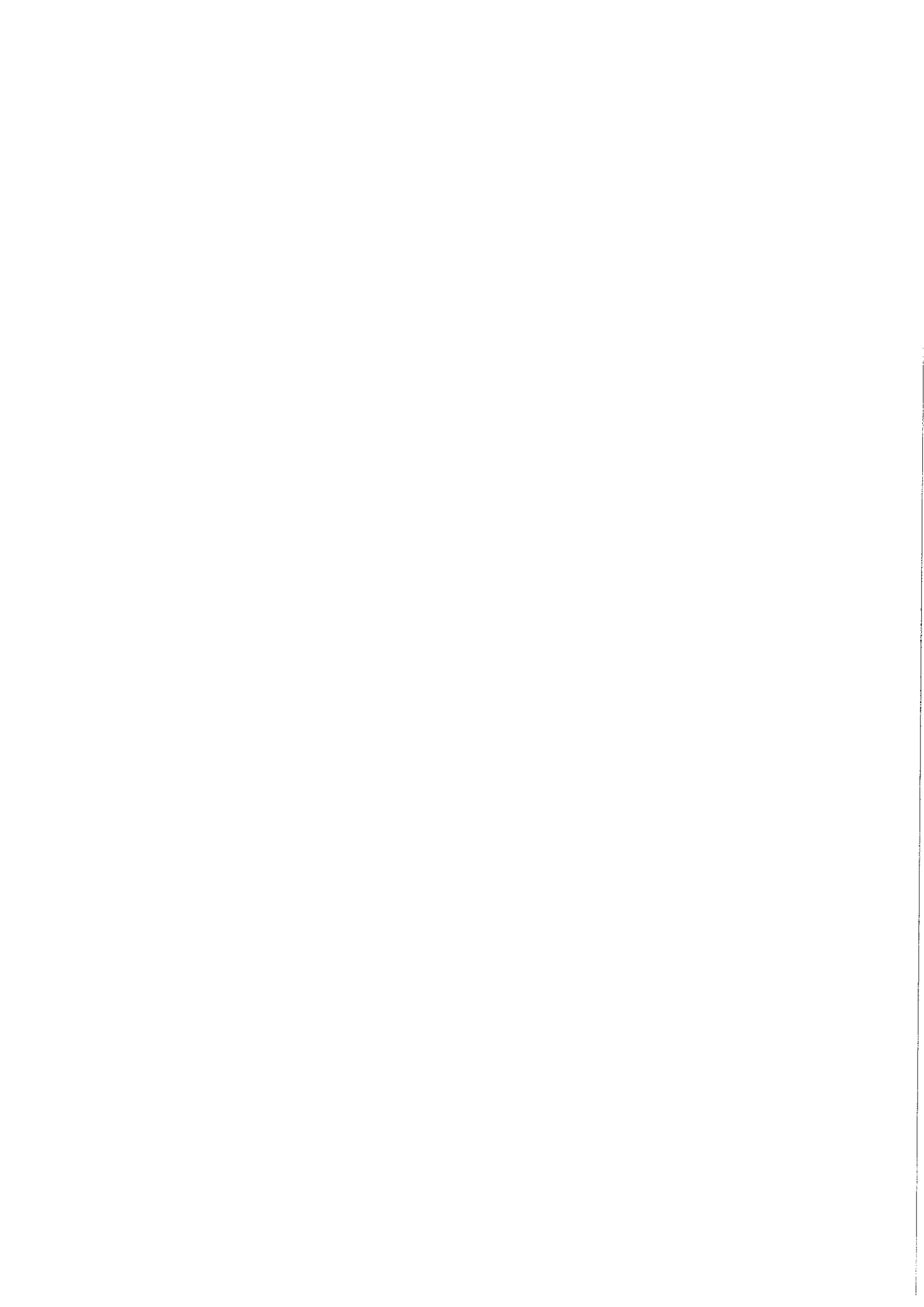
- 10.58 The 2003 Act provides that where a premises licence or club premises certificate authorises the exhibition of a film, it must include a condition requiring the admission of children to films to be restricted in accordance with recommendations given either by a body designated under section 4 of the Video Recordings Act 1984 specified in the licence (currently only the British Board of Film Classification – BBFC) or by the licensing authority itself.
- 10.59 The effect of paragraph 5 of Schedule 1 to the 2003 Act is to exempt adverts from the definition of regulated entertainment, but not exempt them from the definition of exhibition of a film. Since the above mandatory condition applies to ‘any film’, it is therefore applicable to the exhibition of adverts.

## Door supervision

- 10.60 Under section 21 of the 2003 Act, when a condition is included in a premises licence that at specified times an individual must be present at the premises to carry out a security activity (as defined in section 21(3)(a) by reference to the Private Security Industry Act 2001 (“the 2001 Act”)), the licence must include a condition requiring that individual to be licensed by the Security Industry Authority (“the SIA”) under the 2001 Act, or be entitled to carry out that activity by virtue of section 4 of the 2001 Act.
- 10.61 A premises licence need not require a person to hold a licence granted by the SIA if that person benefits from an exemption under section 4 of the 2001 Act. For example, certain employees benefit from an exemption when carrying out conduct in connection with a certified sports ground (section 4(6) to (12)). Furthermore, in certain circumstances persons benefit from an exemption where they operate under the SIA’s Approved Contractor Scheme (section 15).
- 10.62 Conditions under section 21 of the 2003 Act should only relate to individuals carrying out security activities defined by section 21(3)(a) of the 2003 Act. Therefore, they should only relate to an activity to which paragraph 2(1)(a) of Schedule 2 to the 2001 Act applies (certain manned guarding activities) and which is licensable conduct within the meaning of section 3(2) of that Act. The requirement does not relate to individuals performing non-security related activities, and section 21 should not be used in relation to any such activities.
- 10.63 Section 21 of the 2003 Act continues to ensure that a premises licence need not impose such a requirement in relation to those licensed premises which the 2001 Act treats as unlicensed premises. Those are:
- premises in respect of which there is in force a premises licence authorising a performance of a play or an exhibition of a film;
  - casinos or bingo halls licensed under the Gambling Act 2005;
  - premises where a club certificate is in force when activities are being carried on under the authority of that certificate.

See paragraph 8(3) of Schedule 2 to the 2001 Act for full details.

- 10.64 It should be noted, however, that the 2001 Act will require contractors and a small number of employees (those managing/supervising and those supplied under contract) to be licensed as manned guards (rather than door supervisors) when undertaking licensable conduct on premises to which paragraph 8(3) of Schedule 2 to the 2001 Act applies.
- 10.65 It is therefore important that if a licensing authority intends that individuals must be present to carry out security activities (as defined by section 21(3)(a) of the 2003 Act) this should be explicit, as should the mandatory condition for those individuals to hold an SIA licence or be entitled to carry out that activity by virtue of section 4 of the 2001 Act. On the other hand, where a licensing authority intends that individuals must be present to carry out other activities (for example, activities related to safety or steward activities to organise, advise and direct members of the public), no mandatory condition should be imposed under section 21 of the 2003 Act. In all cases it is important when determining whether or not a condition is to be imposed under section 21 of the 2003 Act to consider whether the activities of any individual working in licensed premises fall within the definition of security activities in section 21(3)(a) of the 2003 Act. (Regardless of whether a condition is imposed under section 21 of the 2003 Act, under the 2001 Act the appropriate SIA licence must be held by any individual performing an activity for which they are licensable under that Act.)





## LICENCE CONDITIONS – GENERAL PRINCIPLES

**1.16** Conditions on a premises licence or club premises certificate are important in setting the parameters within which premises can lawfully operate. The use of wording such as “must”, “shall” and “will”, is encouraged. Licence conditions:

- must be appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives;
- must be precise and enforceable;
- must be unambiguous and clear in what they intend to achieve;
- should not duplicate other statutory requirements or other duties or responsibilities placed on the employer by other legislation;
- must be tailored to the individual type, location and characteristics of the premises and events concerned;
- should not be standardised and may be unlawful when it cannot be demonstrated that they are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives in an individual case;
- should not replicate offences set out in the 2003 Act or other legislation;
- should be proportionate, justifiable and be capable of being met, (for example, whilst beer glasses may be available in toughened glass, wine glasses may not);
- cannot seek to manage the behaviour of customers once they are beyond the direct management of the licence holder and their staff, but may impact on the behaviour of customers in the immediate vicinity of the premises or as they enter or leave; and
- should be written in a prescriptive format.

### **Each application on its own merits**

**1.17** Each application must be considered on its own merits and in accordance with the licensing authority’s statement of licensing policy; for example, if the application falls within the scope of a cumulative impact policy. Conditions attached to licences and certificates must be tailored to the individual type, location and characteristics of the premises and events concerned. This is essential to avoid the imposition of disproportionate and overly burdensome conditions on premises where there is no need for such conditions. Standardised conditions should be avoided and indeed may be unlawful where they cannot be shown to be appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives in an individual case.



## Licence conditions and reviews

**15.20** The amendments made to the 2003 Act by the Live Music Act 2012 affect conditions relating to live music in licensed premises. Any existing licence conditions on relevant licensed premises (or conditions added on a determination of an application for a premises licence or club premises certificate) which relate to live music remain in place, but are suspended between the hours of 08:00 and 23:00 on the same day where the following conditions are met:

- at the time of the live music, the premises are open for the purposes of being used for the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises;
- if the live music is amplified, the performance takes place before an audience of no more than 200 people; and
- the live music takes place between 08.00 and 23.00 on the same day.

**15.21** The effect of conditions relating to other activities that are deregulated between 08:00-23:00 is explained in paragraphs 15.29 to 15.33.

### Live music and conditions

**15.22** In some instances, it will be obvious that a condition relates to live music and will be suspended, for example “during performances of live music all doors and windows must remain closed”. In other instances, it might not be so obvious: for example, a condition stating “during performances of Regulated Entertainment all doors and windows must remain closed” would not apply if the only entertainment provided was live music between 08:00 and 23:00 on the same day to an audience of up to 200, but the condition would continue to apply if there was a disco in an adjoining room.

**15.23** However, even where the 2003 Act (as amended by the 2012 Act) has deregulated aspects of the performance of live music, it remains possible to apply for a review of a premises licence or club premises certificate if there are appropriate grounds to do so. On a review of a premises licence or club premises certificate, section 177A(3) of the 2003 Act permits a licensing authority to lift the suspension and give renewed effect to an existing condition relating to live music. Similarly, under section 177A(4), a licensing authority may add a condition relating to live music as if live music were regulated entertainment, and as if that premises licence or club premises certificate licensed the live music.

**15.24** An application for a review in relation to relevant premises can be made by a licensing authority, any responsible authority or any other person. Applications for review must still be relevant to one or more of the licensing objectives and meet a number of further requirements (see Chapter 11 of this Guidance for more information about reviews under the 2003 Act).

**15.25** More general licence conditions (e.g. those relating to overall management of potential noise nuisance) that are not specifically related to the provision of

entertainment (e.g. signage asking patrons to leave quietly) will continue to have effect.

### **Live music: conditions relating to beer gardens**

- 15.26** Beer gardens are often included as part of a premises licence or club premises certificate. Live amplified music that takes place in a beer garden is exempt from licensing requirements, provided the beer garden is included in the licence or certificate applying to the relevant licensed premises, and the performance takes place between 08:00 and 23:00 on the same day before an audience of 200 people or fewer.
- 15.27** Where a beer garden does not form part of the relevant licensed premises and so is not included in plans attached to a premises licence or club premises certificate, it is nevertheless very likely that it will be a workplace. Paragraph 12B of Schedule 1 to the 2003 Act says that a performance of live music in a workplace that does not have a licence (except to provide late night refreshment) is not regulated entertainment if it takes place between 08:00 and 23:00 on the same day in front of an audience of no more than 200 people.
- 15.28** However, a licensing authority may, in appropriate circumstances, impose a licence condition that relates to the performance of live music in an unlicensed beer garden using any associated premises licence or club premises certificate. Provided such a condition is lawfully imposed, it takes effect in accordance with its terms.

### **Conditions relating to plays, dance and indoor sport**

- 15.29** As a result of the 2013 Order, a performance of a play or dance, or an indoor sporting event, will no longer require a licence to the extent that certain qualifying conditions (see paragraph 15.10) are satisfied. Similarly, to the extent that those qualifying conditions are satisfied, any current licence condition that relates to an activity for which a licence is no longer required will (except in the circumstances described in the next paragraph) have no effect.
- 15.30** Where, however, non-licensable activities take place at the same time as other activities for which a licence is required (e.g. the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises), conditions included in a licence may nevertheless apply to the non-licensable activities in the circumstances set out in paragraphs 15.36 and 15.37 below (conditions relating to other non-licensable activities).
- 15.31** A licence holder who wishes to remove conditions relating to activities that are no longer licensable may apply to the licensing authority for a licence variation. In the course of considering such applications, licensing authorities are encouraged to remove such conditions unless there are sufficiently serious specific concerns about the hosting of deregulated entertainment activities in relation to the remaining licensable activities taking place in the premises in question.

**15.32** Performances of dance which are “relevant entertainment” within the meaning of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 (“the 1982 Act”) are not affected by the 2013 Order, regardless of the size of the audience or the time of day. “Relevant entertainment” is defined in the 1982 Act as a live performance or live display of nudity that, ignoring financial gain, can be assumed to be provided solely or principally for the purpose of sexually stimulating any member of the audience.

**15.33** In almost all cases where a performance of dance is potentially licensable as both the provision of relevant entertainment (under the 1982 Act) and regulated entertainment (under the 2003 Act), the 1982 Act disapplies the entertainment licensing regime in the 2003 Act in favour of its stricter regime for the control of sex establishments. However, an authorisation under the 2003 Act will be required where:

- the premises are not licensed as a sex entertainment venue under the 1982 Act, and
- relevant entertainment has been provided at those premises on no more than 11 occasions in any 12 month period, with none of those occasions lasting longer than 24 hours or taking place within a month of any other such occasion.

### **Conditions relating to combined fighting sports**

**15.34** The 2013 Order amended the existing descriptions of regulated entertainment to make clear that both an indoor boxing or wrestling entertainment cannot also be an indoor sporting event, and that any contest, exhibition or display combining boxing or wrestling with one or more martial arts (‘combined fighting sports’) is – whether indoors or not – a boxing or wrestling entertainment.

**15.35** To the extent that a premises licence or club premises certificate purports to authorise a boxing or wrestling entertainment or combined fighting sports as an ‘indoor sporting event’, the 2013 Order provides that the authorisation will be treated as having authorised those activities as a boxing or wrestling entertainment. Those activities will continue to be subject to any relevant conditions attached to that authorisation.

### **Conditions relating to other non-licensable activities**

**15.36** If appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives, and if there is a link to remaining licensable activities, conditions that relate to non-licensable activities can be added to or altered on that premises licence or club premises certificate at review following problems occurring at the premises. This has been a feature of licence conditions since the 2003 Act came into force. A relevant example could be the use of conditions relating to large screen broadcasts of certain sporting events which, combined with alcohol consumption, create a genuine risk to the promotion of the licensing objectives. It is also not uncommon for licence conditions relating to the

sale of alcohol to restrict access to outside areas, such as unlicensed beer gardens, after a certain time.

**15.37** Similarly, while karaoke no longer needs licensing as the provision of entertainment facilities (and will generally be classed as a performance of live music – see paragraph 15.16 above) it might, for example, be possible on review to limit the use or volume of a microphone made available for customers, if a problem had occurred because of customers purchasing alcohol for consumption on the premises becoming louder and less aware of causing noise nuisance later in the evening. Another example might be a condition restricting access to a dance floor, where the presence of customers who had been consuming alcohol on the premises had led to serious disorder.