

Business Information Sheet

Number 2c: Food business – Alcohol and Entertainment Licenses

Alcohol and entertainment licenses

The law

The Licensing Act 2003 governs the sale of alcohol, music and dancing, late night refreshments, the performance of plays, the exhibition of films, indoor sporting events and boxing or wrestling entertainment.

For further information about the Licensing Act 2003, please download the council's [Licensing Policy](#)

General overview

The legislation aims to benefit existing and future licence holders by providing a more consistent framework for considering and managing alcohol, entertainment and late night refreshment licensing in the borough.

It affects anyone who deals with the following:

- Pubs and nightclubs
- Off-licences and shops selling alcohol
- Restaurants serving alcohol

- Businesses selling hot food between 11pm and 5am (including take-aways and mobile caterers)
- Hotels, guest houses and other places that sell alcohol
- Provision of public entertainment
- Theatres and amateur dramatic clubs
- Cinemas
- Indoor sporting events
- Occasional entertainment of music or dancing or where alcohol is sold

The Licensing Act 2003 makes local councils responsible for regulating licenses. Licensees can apply for late night opening, up to 24 hours, and councils will only be able to refuse late night trading in specific circumstances.

The Licensing and Safety Committee is guided by four licensing objectives and the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy:

- Prevention of crime and disorder
- Prevention of public nuisance
- Public safety
- Protection of children from harm

It is an offence to supply alcohol to a minor (person under 18) on a premises where supplies of alcohol are authorised by a club premises certificate. It is now illegal to knowingly sell or supply alcohol to a minor anywhere.

Applying for a premises licence

Premises Licence are required where licensable activities are going to take place and a Personal Licence will be required by any person selling or authorising the sale of alcohol (see Food Business - Personal Licence).

A Premises Licence will be required for any premises where any licensable activities are going to take place or where retail sales of alcohol take place.

Premises Licences will be granted to a named licence holder and where the licence includes the sale of alcohol, it must specify a Designated Premises Supervisor (who must also have a Personal Licence - see below).

Licences will be subject to conditions such as times of opening but there are no longer any set opening times across the country. Premises Licences will not need renewing, but there is an annual fee; the amount is dependent on the ratable value, payable one year from the grant of your licence.

What fee do I pay?

You need to know the [business rate for your premises](#), otherwise you cannot calculate the correct fee.


See an explanation of the fees regime and worked examples: [Appendix 1](#)


You can download a Premises Licence application form from: http://www.harrow.gov.uk/site/scripts/download_info.php?downloadID=875&fileID=1888

For further information, see http://www.harrow.gov.uk/info/200063/licences_and_street_trading/1049/alcohol_and_entertainment_licences/3

Licensing

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