Alcohol, Entertainment, Late Night and Refreshment Licences

Local Authorities are responsible for the licensing and regulation of a wide range of activities, operators, premises, individuals and vehicles. It is important for you to know whether your business activity requires a licence so that your business is lawful. Please contact your local Authority for further information. Consultations with the public and partnership agencies are required as part of some licensing functions and failure to comply with the law can for some matters constitute a criminal offence. Application, annual or other fees may also be payable.

The objectives behind licensing laws, policy and decisions

Local licensing policy, decisions and conditions are underpinned by four licensing objectives which are

* the prevention of crime and disorder,
* public safety,
* the prevention of public nuisance
* the protection of children from harm.

Licensable activities under the Licensing Act 2003 include:

* The sale of alcohol by retail.
* The supply of alcohol to club members and guests



* The provision of regulated entertainment (plays, films, indoor sporting events, live and recorded music, dancing and similar activities)
* The provision of late-night refreshments (Hot food or hot drinks between 23:00 and 05:00).

It is strongly recommended that you contact Police & Environmental Health prior to application. This may reduce the likelihood of an objection to your application.

The Gambling Act 2005

A licence or permit is required and includes:

* Bingo premises.
* Tracks & Betting Shops.
* Adult gaming centres and Licenced family entertainment centres (e.g., amusement arcades).
* Gaming and machines in pubs and clubs (including poker).
* Small society lotteries and large lotteries
* Temporary or Occasional Use Notices.
* Before applying to your local authority, you may first need to make an application to the Gambling Commission for an Operator’s Licence depending on the type and scale of gambling activity.

Other local authority licences, permits and registrations

These include:

* Market and mobile trading, street trading and street cafes.
* Taxi and private hire driver, vehicle and operator licences.
* Animal boarding (Cats & Dogs), animal breeding (dogs), pet sales, animal exhibition and zoos
* Operating a horse-riding establishment
* Keeping a dangerous wild animal
* Charitable street collections and house to house collections for charitable and other not-for-profit good causes.
* Special treatments and skin piercing (including acupuncture, electrolysis, body or ear piercing, tattooing).
* Sex shops, sexual entertainment venues and sex cinemas.
* Scrap metal dealing including motor salvage
* Boat and boatmen licences
* Mobile home and caravan site licences
* Houses of Multiple Occupancy