

Appendix 7

12.0 Protection of Children

- 12.1 The Licensing Authority recognises the great variety of premises for which licences may be sought. These will include theatres, cinemas, restaurants, pubs, nightclubs, cafes, takeaways, community halls and schools. Access by children to all types of premises will not be limited in any way unless it is considered appropriate to do so in order to protect them from physical, moral or psychological harm. Equally, no premises will be obliged to allow access by children.
- 12.2 If relevant representations are received in relation to limiting access to children, the Licensing Authority will judge each application on its own individual merits. Examples which may give rise to concern in respect of children would include premises:-
- where entertainment of an adult or sexual nature is provided
 - where there is a strong element of gambling taking place (but not, for example, the simple presence of a small number of cash prize gaming machines)
 - with a known association with drug taking or dealing
 - where there have been convictions of current members of staff for serving alcohol to those under 18
 - with a reputation for under age drinking
- 12.3 In the case of premises which are used for film exhibitions, conditions will be imposed restricting access only to those who meet the required age limit in line with any certificate granted by the British Board of Film Classification or, in specific cases, a certificate given to the film by the Licensing Authority itself.
- 12.4 The options available for limiting access by children would include:-
- a limit on the hours when children may be present
 - a limitation or exclusion when certain activities are taking place
 - the requirement to be accompanied by an adult
 - access may be limited to parts of the premises but not the whole
 - an age limitation (for under 18s)
- 12.5 The Licensing Authority will not impose any condition which specifically requires access for children to be provided at any premises. Where no restriction or limitation is imposed the issue of access will remain a matter for the discretion of the individual licensee or club.
- 12.6 Under the Act, certain “responsible authorities” must be notified of and are entitled to make representations about applications for premises licences or club premises certificates or major variations of such licences or certificates, or to ask the licensing authority to review a licence or certificate. Applicants for premises licences and club premises certificates are required to send details of their applications to these bodies. In connection with the protection of children the Licensing Authority considers the local Area Child Protection Committee to be the responsible body to which applications should be copied.
- 12.7 Where a large number of children are likely to be present on any licensed premises, for example a children’s show or disco, the applicant may wish to consider including in the operating schedule arrangements for the presence of an appropriate number of adult staff to ensure public safety and the protection of the children from harm. The

applicant should also consider whether employees working at the premises for such events and having unsupervised contact with children should have an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.

12.8 Children may also be present at an event as entertainers, and where they are not accompanied by a parent or guardian, the applicant may wish to consider nominating an adult responsible for such child performers at such performances. The applicant should also consider whether a nominated adult should have had an enhanced DBS check.

12.9 Applicants may wish to include in their operating schedules arrangements to ensure that children will be restricted from viewing age-restricted films classified according to the recommendations of the British Board of Film Classification or the Licensing Authority itself. The Act provides that it is mandatory for a condition to be included in all premises licences and club premises certificates authorising the exhibition of films for the admission of children to the exhibition of any film to be restricted in accordance with the recommendations given to films either by the British Board of Film Classification or by the licensing authority itself.

12.10 The following matters will also be considered in relation to the protection of children from harm:

- Whether access of children to cigarette machines is restricted
- Whether access of children to any gaming machines is restricted
- Where appropriate, the procedures for ensuring that any customer coming onto the premises is over the age of 18
- The steps taken to ensure that, where appropriate, all staff involved in the management of the premises have the capability, responsibility and training to supervise other staff and to ensure that the premises are operated in such a manner as to protect children from harm

12.11 Applicants may wish to indicate in the operating schedule how the protection of children from harm will be addressed. The above items are not intended to be exhaustive, and the applicant should have considered all relevant aspects of the protection of children from harm applicable to the particular premises.

12.12 It is the view of the Licensing Authority that children should not be exposed to entertainments of a sexual nature or to strong language at a too early an age. Conditions may be imposed, if representations are received, aimed at preventing such exposure either intentionally or accidentally. In some premises entertainment of an adult nature may be occasional or restricted to certain times of the day. In these cases, any restrictive conditions to protect children will apply only at these times. When submitting an application, if no reference is made to the provision of adult entertainment or services within an operating schedule at "Box N", then the Authority will interpret this to mean that such entertainment will not be provided and a condition to this effect will be applied to the licence

15.0 The promotion of public safety

15.1 The Act complements but does not seek to duplicate the statutory requirements of other legislation, which affect those who have responsibility for the conduct of licensed premises such as the Health and Safety at Work Etc. Act 1974.

- 15.2 One of the things which the licensing system can provide is agreement in advance on a standard layout for furniture, location of stage, placing of linked seats etc. so that licensees can be confident about their practical arrangements, provided that they stick to that way of doing things. With other legislative controls, there may be no official inspection of the arrangements made, unless there is an investigation when something has gone wrong.
- 15.3 As a consequence of the many common features of leisure businesses, such as the operation of door policies, competition for taxis and the interaction with people on the street late at night, individual premises necessarily function as part of a network of businesses, sharing information on crime and disorder issues which affect them all.
- 15.4 The Licensing Authority recognises that participation in forums such as Pub Watch and the proper use of network radios are key to the safe operation of the majority of leisure businesses. It may be appropriate for an operating schedule to include these practical matters.
- 15.5 Fire safety requirements are determined principally by specific fire safety legislation. The overall standard of fire safety is an important consideration in determining the suitability of premises for licensable activities.
- 15.6 The Licensing Authority will not use the licensing process to secure routine compliance with fire safety requirements, which arise from other legislation. Nevertheless in circumstances where fire safety inadequacies indicate that premises pose a risk to the health and safety to those who enter them and where specific fire safety enforcement does not provide a sufficient or sufficiently rapid remedy, the Licensing Authority will take appropriate steps to ensure that the risk is removed including, where appropriate, and where a review of the licence is requested, revocation of the licence.
- 15.7 In addition the Licensing Authority will also consider and deal with the introduction of further hazards to public safety as part of an event and the exercise of controls over occupancy, so that premises can be cleared safely and efficiently, in the event of an emergency.
- 15.8 Where an applicant identifies an issue with regard to public safety (including fire safety) which is not covered by existing legislation, the applicant should indicate in the operating schedule the steps which will be taken to ensure public safety. Depending on the location, size and likely clientele of the premises, and the type of entertainment (if any) to be provided, the following issues may be of relevance:
- The maximum capacity of the premises, and the arrangements for ensuring that a capacity limit is not exceeded and for monitoring capacity. This applies to the premises as a whole and to different rooms or levels within the premises.
 - Steps taken to ensure that all staff involved in the management of the premises have the capability, responsibility and training to supervise other staff and to ensure that the premises are operated in such a manner as to ensure the safety of the public
 - The design of the premises and in particular the capability of the structure to bear the likely loads to be imposed at maximum occupancy.
 - The structural condition of the premises and state of repair.
 - The condition of the electrical and gas services, and arrangements for temporary electrical installations.
 - The lighting, heating and ventilation systems.
 - The fire resisting and fire separation properties of the premises.

- The means of escape from the premises.
- The adequacy of the sanitary arrangements.
- The use of flame retardant materials on fixtures and fittings.
- The protection and safety of the audience, particularly at any indoor sporting event or boxing or wrestling entertainment.
- The availability of qualified first aiders when the premises are open.
- The protection and safety of performers of entertainment.

The Licensing Authority will expect the applicant to have carried out a risk assessment on these matters in producing the operating schedule. The above list is not intended to be exhaustive, and the Licensing Authority will expect the applicant to have considered all relevant aspects of the safety and suitability of the premises which are not dealt with under other legislation, and which are within the control of the applicant.