

Licensing Act 2003 – Entertainment Exemptions

The Legislative Reform (Entertainment Licensing) Order 2014 comes into force on 6 April 2015. This adds a few more exemptions to the Act relating to regulated entertainment.

Licence Exemptions:-

The following activities no longer require a licence from 6th April 2015:-

Live Music: (no licence required for):-

- A performance of unamplified live music between 08:00 and 23:00 on any day, on any premises
- A performance of amplified live music between 08:00 and 23:00 on any day on premises licensed to sell alcohol ON the premises, provided that the audience does not exceed 500
- A performance of amplified live music between 08:00 and 23:00 on any day, in a workplace that is not licensed to sell alcohol on the premises, provided that the audience does not exceed 500.
- A performance of amplified live music between 08:00 and 23:00 on any day
 1. In a Church
 2. Village Hall
 3. Community Hall
 4. Or other similar community premises

That is not licensed by a premises licence to sell alcohol provided that the audience does not exceed 500 and the organiser get consent from a person responsible for the premises.

- A performance of amplified live music between 08:00 and 23:00 on any day, at the:-
 1. Non-residential premises
 2. Local authority
 3. School
 4. Hospital

Provided that the organiser gets consent on the relevant premises: the local authority concerned, the school or the health care provider for the hospital.

Recorded Music: (no licence required for):-

- Any playing of recorded music between 08:00 and 23:00 on any day on a premises that is licensed to sell alcohol ON the premises, provided that the audience does not exceed 500
- Any playing of recorded music between 08:00 and 23:00 on any day in a:-
 1. Church hall
 2. Village hall
 3. Community hall
 4. Or other similar community premises

That is not licensed by a premises licence to sell alcohol provided that the audience does not exceed 500 and the organiser get consent from a person responsible for the premises.

- Any playing of recorded music between 08:00 and 23:00 on any day, at the:-
 5. Non-residential premises
 6. Local authority
 7. School
 8. Hospital

Provided that the organiser gets consent on the relevant premises; the local authority concerned, the school or the health care provider for the hospital.

Plays:-

- Performances between 08:00 and 23:00 on any day, provided that the audience does not exceed 500

Dance:-

- Performances between 08:00 and 23:00 on any day provided that the audience does not exceed 500

Films:-

- a “not-for-profit” film exhibition held in a community premises between 08:00 – 23:00 on any day provided that the audience does not exceed 500 and the organiser gets consent from a person responsible for the premises and ensures that such screening abides by age classification ratings.

Indoor sporting event:-

- an event that takes place between 08:00 and 23:00 on any day provided that those present do not exceed 1000.

Boxing or Wrestling entertainment:-

- a contest, exhibition or display of Greco-Roman wrestling, or freestyle wrestling between 08:00 – 23:00 on any day, provided that the audience does not exceed 1000.

Cross activity exemptions; no licence is required between 08:00 and 23:00 on any day, with no limit on audience size for:-

- any entertainment taking place on the premises of the local authority where the entertainment is provided by or on behalf of the local authority
- any entertainment taking place on the hospital premises of the health care provider where the entertainment is provided by or on behalf of the health care provider
- any entertainment taking place on the premises of the school where the entertainment is provided by or on behalf of the school proprietor
- any entertainment (excluding films and a boxing or wrestling entertainment) taking place at a travelling circus, provided that:-
 1. it takes place within moveable structure that accommodates the audience
 2. that the travelling circus has not been located on the same site for more than 28 consecutive days.

Any activities that takes place before 08:00 or after 23:00 will require either a premises licence or a Temporary Event Notice.

Other Deregulations

Personal licence renewals

The requirement to renew a personal licence has now been abolished with effect from 1st April 2015. Personal Licences will remain in effect continuously unless surrendered or revoked.

Sale of liqueur confectionery to children under 16: abolition of offence

The Deregulation Act has abolished the offence of selling liquor confectionery to children under 16 with effect from 26th May 2015, after that date, a person of any age can purchase liquor confectionery (Chocolate Liquors) in England and Wales

Requirement to report lost or stolen licences

The requirement to report lost or stolen licences to the police before applying for a duplicate licence has been abolished with effect from 26th May 2015

Temporary Event Notices

The limit on the number of temporary events that can be held at a premise will be increased from 12 to 15 per year with effect from 1st January 2016. This is unlikely to have any adverse impact on the workload of Licensing Officers and an insignificant impact on income.