

# MODEL POOL OF CONDITIONS

## Conditions relating to the prevention of crime and disorder

*It should be noted in particular that it is unlawful under the 2003 Act:*

- *to knowingly sell or supply alcohol to a person who is drunk;*
- *to knowingly allow disorderly conduct on licensed premises;*
- *for the holder of a premises licence or a designated premises supervisor to knowingly keep or to allow to be kept on licensed premises any goods that have been imported without payment of duty or which have otherwise been unlawfully imported;*
- *to allow the presence of children under 16 who are not accompanied by an adult between midnight and 5am at any premises licensed for the sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises, and at any time in premises used exclusively or primarily for the sale and consumption of alcohol.*

*Conditions enforcing these arrangements are therefore unnecessary.*

### **General**

**Under no circumstances should the following measures be regarded as standard conditions to be automatically imposed in all cases. They are designed to provide a range of conditions drawn from experience relating to differing situations and to offer guidance.**

**Any individual preparing an operating schedule is at liberty to volunteer any measure, such as those described below, as a step he or she intends to take to promote the licensing objectives. When incorporated into the licence or certificate as a condition, they become enforceable under the law and a breach of such a condition could give rise to prosecution.**

### **Text pagers**

Text pagers connecting premises licence holders, or designated premises supervisors to the local police station can provide for rapid response by the police to situations of disorder which may be endangering the customers and/or staff on the premises.

Such pagers provide two-way communication, both enabling licence holders, managers, designated premises supervisors and clubs to report incidents to the police, and enabling the police to warn other licence holders of potential trouble-makers or individuals suspected of criminal behaviour who are about in a particular area. Pager systems can also be used by licence holders, door supervisors, managers, designated premises supervisors and clubs to warn each other of the presence in an area of such people.

It is recommended that a condition requiring the text/radio pager links to the police should include the following elements:

- a requirement that the text/pager equipment is kept in working order at all times;
- a requirement that the pager link be activated, made available to and monitored by the designated premises supervisor or a responsible member of staff at all times that the premises are open to the public;
- a requirement that any police instructions/directions are complied with whenever given; and
- a requirement that all instances of crime or disorder are reported via the text/radio pager link by the designated premises supervisor or a responsible member of staff to an agreed police contact point.

### **Door supervisors**

Conditions relating to the provision of door supervisors and security teams may be valuable in:

- Preventing the admission and ensuring the departure from the premises of the drunk and disorderly, without causing further disorder;
- Keeping out excluded individuals (subject to court bans or imposed by the licence holder);
- Searching and excluding those suspected of carrying illegal drugs, or carrying offensive weapons;
- Maintaining orderly queues outside the premises.

Should the provision of door supervisors become a condition of a licence, they would have to be registered with the Security Industry Authority, and further conditions may also be needed to deal with the number of such supervisors, the displaying of name badges, the carrying of proof of registration, where and at what times they should be stationed on the premises, and whether at least one female supervisor should be available (for example, if female customers are to be the subject of body searches).

Door supervisors also have a role in ensuring public safety (see model condition relating to public safety).

### **Bottle bans**

Bottles may be used as weapons inflicting more serious harm during incidents of disorder. A condition can prevent sales of drinks in their bottles for consumption on the premises. However, it should be noted that many women consider that drinking from bottles to be safer as it is easier for them to prevent the spiking of drinks with drugs in bottles the openings of which may be readily covered. These issues therefore need to be carefully balanced.

### **Plastic containers and toughened glass**

Glasses may be used as weapons during incidents of disorder and can cause very serious injuries. Consideration should therefore be given to conditions requiring either the use of plastic containers or toughened glasses. Location and style of the venue and the activities carried on there would be particularly important in assessing whether a condition is necessary. For example, the use of glass containers on the terraces of outdoor sports grounds may obviously be of concern, but similar concerns may also apply to indoor sports events such as boxing matches. Similarly, the use of such plastic containers or toughened glass during the televising of live sporting events, such as international football matches, when high states of excitement and emotion fuelled by alcohol might arise.

It should be noted that the use of plastic or paper drinks containers and toughened glass may also be relevant as measures to promote public safety (see model conditions relating to public safety).

### **CCTV**

The presence of CCTV cameras can be an important means of deterring and detecting crime at and immediately outside licensed premises. Conditions should not just consider a requirement to have CCTV on the premises, but also the precise location of each camera, the requirement to maintain cameras in working order, and to retain recordings for an appropriate period of time.

The police should provide individuals with advice on the use of CCTV to prevent crime.

### **Open containers not to be taken from the premises**

Drinks purchased in licensed premises or clubs may be taken from those premises for consumption elsewhere. Where premises are licensed for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises that would be entirely lawful. However, consideration should be given to a condition preventing the taking of alcoholic and other drinks from the premises in open containers (e.g. glasses and opened bottles). This may again be necessary to prevent the use of these containers as offensive weapons in surrounding streets after individuals have left the premises.

### **Restrictions on Drinking Areas**

It may be necessary to restrict the areas where alcoholic drinks may be consumed in premises after they have been purchased from the bar. An example would be at a sports ground where the police consider it necessary to prevent the consumption of alcohol on the terracing of sports grounds during particular sports events. Such conditions should not only specify these areas, but also indicate the circumstances in which the ban would apply and times at which it should be enforced.

## Capacity limits

Although most commonly made a condition of a licence on public safety grounds, consideration should also be given to conditions, which set capacity limits for licensed premises, or clubs where it may be necessary to prevent overcrowding which can lead to disorder and violence. Where such a condition is considered necessary, consideration should also be given to whether door supervisors would be needed to ensure that the numbers are appropriately controlled.

## Proof of Age cards

It is unlawful for children under 18 to attempt to buy alcohol just as it is unlawful to sell or supply alcohol to them. To prevent such crimes, it may be necessary to require certain licensed premises to require the production of "proof of age" before such sales are made. This should not be limited to recognised "proof of age" cards, but allow for the production of other proof, such as photo-driving licences, student cards and passports. It is recommended that licensees support the PASS accredited system, which aims to approve and accredit various proof of age schemes that are in existence.

## Crime prevention notices

It may be necessary at some premises for notices to be displayed, which warn customers of the prevalence of crime which may target them. For example, in certain areas, a condition attached to a premises licence or club premises certificate might require the displaying of notices at the premises which warn customers about the need to be aware of pickpockets or bag snatchers, and to guard their property. Similarly, it may be necessary for notices to be displayed that advise customers not to leave bags unattended because of concerns about terrorism. Consideration could be given to a condition requiring a notice to display the name of a contact for customers if they wish to report concerns.

## Drinks promotions

Standardised conditions should not be attached to premises licences or club premises certificates that promote fixed prices for alcoholic drinks. It is also likely to be unlawful for licensing authorities or police officers to promote voluntary arrangements of this kind. This can risk creating cartels. Using conditions to control the prices of alcoholic drinks in an area may also breach competition laws. Conditions tailored to the individual circumstances of particular premises that address **irresponsible** drinks promotions may be permissible provided they are necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

## Signage

It may be necessary for the normal hours under the terms of the premises licence or club premises certificate at which licensable activities are permitted to take place to be displayed on or immediately outside the premises so that it is clear if breaches of the terms of the licence or certificate are taking place.

Similarly, it may be necessary for any restrictions on the admission of children to be displayed on or immediately outside the premises so that the consequences of breaches of these conditions would also be clear and to deter those who might seek admission in breach of those conditions.

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

Large capacity "vertical drinking" premises, sometimes called High Volume Vertical Drinking establishments (HVVDs), are premises with exceptionally high capacities, used primarily or exclusively for the sale and consumption of alcohol, and have little or no seating for patrons.

Where necessary and appropriate, conditions can be attached to premises licences for the promotion of the prevention of crime and disorder at such premises (if not volunteered by the venue operator and following representations on such grounds) which require adherence to:

- a prescribed capacity;
- an appropriate ratio of tables and chairs to customers based on the capacity; and
- the presence of SIA registered security teams to control entry for the purpose of compliance with the capacity limit.

## Conditions relating to the protection of children from harm

*It should be noted that it is unlawful under the 2003 Act:*

- *To permit unaccompanied children under the age of 16 to be present on premises exclusively or primarily used for supply of alcohol for consumption on those premises under the authorisation of a premises licences, club premises certificates or a temporary event notice when open for the purposes of being used for the supply of alcohol for consumption there. In addition, it is an offence to permit the presence of children under 16 who are not accompanied by an adult between midnight and 5am at all premises supplying alcohol for consumption on those premises under the authorisation of any premises licence, club premises certificate or temporary event notice. Conditions duplicating these provisions are, therefore, unnecessary.*

### **Access for children to licensed premises - in general**

Conditions attached to premises licences and club premises certificates may reflect the concerns of responsible authorities and interested parties who have made representations but only where the licensing authority considers it necessary to protect children from harm.

Whilst applications in relation to premises licences and club premises certificates must be judged by licensing authorities on their individual merits and characteristics, the Secretary of State recommends (unless there are circumstances justifying the contrary) that:

- For any premises with known associations (having been presented with evidence) with or likely to give rise to heavy or binge or underage drinking, drugs, significant gambling, or any activity or entertainment (whether regulated entertainment or not) of a clearly adult or sexual nature, there should be a strong presumption against permitting any access at all for children under 18 years. Applicants wishing to allow access for children to premises where these associations may be relevant, when preparing operating schedules or club operating schedules or variations of those schedules for the purposes of obtaining or varying a premises licence or club premises certificate should:
  - Explain their reasons; and
  - Outline in detail the steps that they intend to take to protect children from harm on such premises.
- For any premises, not serving alcohol for consumption on the premises, but where the public are allowed on the premises after 11.00pm, there should be a presumption against the presence of children unaccompanied by adults under the age of 12 after that time. Applicants wishing to allow access when preparing operating schedules or variations of those schedules or club operating schedules for the purposes of obtaining or varying a premises licence or club premises certificate should:
  - Explain their reasons; and
  - Outline in detail the steps that they intend to take to protect children from harm on such premises.
- In any other case, subject to the premises licence holder or club's discretion, the expectation would be for unrestricted access for children of any age to premises. An operating schedule or club operating schedule should indicate any decision for the premises to exclude children completely, which would mean there was no need to include in the schedule steps the applicant proposes to take to promote the protection of children from harm. Otherwise, where entry is to be permitted, the operating schedule should outline the steps to be taken to promote the protection of children from harm while on the premises.

### **Age Restrictions – specific**

Under the 2003 Act a wide variety of licensable activities could take place at various types of premises and at different times of the day and night. Whilst it may be appropriate to allow children unrestricted access at particular times and when certain activities are not taking place licensing authorities following relevant representations are made by responsible authorities and interested parties will need to consider a range of conditions that are to be tailored to the particular premises and their activities where these are necessary. Licensing authorities are expected to consider:

- The hours of day during when age restrictions should and should not apply. For example, the fact that adult entertainment may take place after 8.00pm does not mean that it would be necessary to impose age restrictions for earlier parts of the day.
- Types of event or activity in respect of which no age restrictions may be needed, for example: family entertainment; or Non-alcohol events for young age groups such as under 18s dances;
- Similarly, types of event or activity, which give rise to a more acute need for age restrictions than normal, for example: during “Happy Hours” or on drinks promotion nights.

### **Age Restrictions – cinemas**

The Secretary of State considers that, in addition to the mandatory condition imposed by virtue of section 20, 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, conditions restricting the admission of children to film exhibitions should include:

- A condition that when films are classified, by either the film classification body as specified in the licence or the licensing authority, they should be classified in the following way:
  - U Universal – suitable for audiences aged four years and over
  - PG – Parental Guidance. Some scenes may be unsuitable for young children.
  - 12A – Passed only for viewing by persons aged 12 years or older or persons younger than 12 when accompanied by an adult.
  - 15 – Passed only for viewing by persons aged 15 years and over.
  - 18 – Passed only for viewing by persons aged 18 years and over.
- That conditions specify that immediately before each exhibition at the premises of a film passed by the British Board of Film Classification there shall be exhibited on screen for at least five seconds in such a manner as to be easily read by all persons in the auditorium a reproduction of the certificate of the Board or, as regards a trailer advertising a film, of the statement approved by the Board indicating the classification of the film.

### **Theatres**

The admission of children to theatres, as with other licensed premises, is not expected to normally be restricted unless it is necessary to promote the licensing objective of the protection of children from harm. However, theatres may be the venue for a wide range of activities. The admission of children to the performance of a play is normally left to the discretion of the licence holder and no condition restricting the access of children to plays should be attached. However, theatres may also present entertainment including, for example, variety shows, incorporating adult entertainment. A condition restricting the admission of children in such circumstances may be necessary. Entertainment may also be presented at theatres specifically for children (see below).

Licensing authorities are also expected to consider whether a condition should be attached to a premises licences which requires the presence of a sufficient number of adult staff on the premises to ensure the well being of children present on the premises during any emergency (See model conditions relating to Theatres and Cinemas).

### **Performances especially for children**

Where performances are presented especially for children in theatres or cinemas, the following conditions will be required:

- An attendant to be stationed in the area(s) occupied by the children, in the vicinity of each exit, provided that on each level occupied by children the minimum number of attendants on duty should be one attendant per 50 children or part thereof.

Licensing authorities are expected, having regard to any representations made by responsible authorities, to also consider whether or not standing should be allowed. For example, there may be reduced risk for children in the stalls than at other levels or areas in the building.

## Children in performances

There are many productions each year that are one-off shows where the cast is made up almost entirely of children. They may be taking part as individuals or as part of a drama club, stage school or school group. The age of those involved may range from 5 to 18. The Children (Performances) Regulations 1968 as amended set out requirements for children performing in a show. Licensing authorities should not duplicate any of these requirements.

However, further conditions may include:

- **Venue** – the backstage facilities should be large enough to safely accommodate the number of children taking part in any performance.
- **Fire safety** – all chaperones and production crew on the show should receive instruction on the fire procedures applicable to the venue prior to the arrival of the children.
- **Special effects** – it may be inappropriate to use certain special effects, including smoke, dry ice, rapid, pulsating or flashing lights, which may trigger adverse reactions especially with regard to children.
- **Care of children** – theatres, concert halls and similar places are places of work and may contain a lot of potentially dangerous equipment. It is therefore important that children performing at such premises are kept under adult supervision at all times including transfer from stage to dressing room and anywhere else on the premises. It is also important that the children can be accounted for at all times in case of an evacuation or emergency.

## The Portman Group Code of Practice on the Naming, Packaging and Promotion of Alcoholic Drinks

The Portman Group operates, on behalf of the alcohol industry, a Code of Practice on the Naming, Packaging and Promotion of Alcoholic Drinks. The Code seeks to ensure that drinks are packaged and promoted in a socially responsible manner and only to those who are 18 years old or older. Complaints about products under the Code are considered by an Independent Complaints Panel and the Panel's decisions are published on the Portman Group's website, in the trade press and in an annual report. If a product's packaging or point-of-sale advertising is found to be in breach of the Code, the Portman Group may issue a Retailer Alert Bulletin to notify retailers of the decision and ask them not to replenish stocks of any such product or to display such point-of-sale material, until the decision has been complied with. The Code is an important mechanism in protecting children from harm because it addresses the naming, marketing and promotion of alcohol products sold in licensed premises in a manner which may appeal to or attract minors.

Where appropriate and necessary, consideration can be given to attaching conditions to premises licences and club premises certificates that require compliance with the Portman Group's Retailer Alert Bulletins.

## Proof of Age cards

A requirement for the production of proof of age cards before any sale of alcohol is made could be attached to any premises licence or club premises certificate for the protection of children from harm. Any such requirement should not be limited to recognised "proof of age" cards, but allow for the production of other proof, such as photo-driving licences and passports. The Secretary of State strongly supports the PASS accreditation system which aims to approve and accredit various proof of age schemes that are in existence. This ensures that such schemes maintain high standards, particularly in the area of integrity and security, and where appropriate and necessary, conditions may refer directly to PASS accredited proof of age cards, photo-driving licences, student cards and passports. As for conditions relating to crime and disorder, it should be noted that many adults in England and Wales do not currently carry any proof of age. This means that the wording of any condition will require careful thought. For example, the requirement might be to ensure sight of evidence of age from any person appearing to those engaged in selling or supplying alcohol to be under the age of 18 and who is attempting to buy alcohol. This would ensure that most minors – even those looking older – would need to produce proof of age appropriately before making such a purchase. Under such an arrangement only a minority of adults might be affected, but for the majority there would be no disruption to their normal activity, for example, when shopping in a supermarket.

Proof of age cards can also ensure that appropriate checks are made where the presence of children is restricted by age at certain times, such as 16.

## **Conditions relating to the prevention of public nuisance**

*It should be noted that provisions of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and the Noise Act 1996 provide some protection to the general public from the effects of noise nuisance. In addition, the provisions in Part 8 of the Licensing Act 2003 enable a senior police officer to close down instantly for up to 24 hours licensed premises and premises carrying on temporary permitted activities that are causing nuisance resulting from noise emanating from the premises. These matters should be considered before deciding whether or not conditions are necessary for the prevention of public nuisance.*

### **Hours**

The hours during which the premises are permitted to be open to the public or to members and their guests can be restricted (other than where they are protected by the transitional provisions of the Licensing Act 2003) by the conditions of a premises licence or a club premises certificate for the prevention of public nuisance. But this must be balanced by the potential impact on disorder, which results from artificially early fixed closing times.

Restrictions could be necessary on the times when certain licensable activities take place even though the premises may be open to the public at such times. For example, the playing of recorded music after a certain time might be prohibited, even though other licensable activities are permitted to continue.

Restrictions might be necessary on the parts of premises that might be used for certain licensable activities at certain times. For example, while the provision of regulated entertainment might be permitted while the premises is open to the public or members and their guests, regulated entertainment might not be permitted in garden areas of the premises after a certain time.

### **Noise and vibration**

- Noise or vibration does not emanate from the premises so as to cause a nuisance to nearby properties. This might be achieved by a simple requirement to keep doors and windows at the premises closed, or to use noise limiters on amplification equipment used at the premises.
- Prominent, clear and legible notices are displayed at all exits requesting the public to respect the needs of local residents and to leave the premises and the area quietly.
- The use of explosives, pyrotechnics and fireworks of a similar nature, which could cause disturbance in surrounding areas, are restricted.
- The placing of refuse – such as bottles - into receptacles outside the premises takes place at times that will minimise the disturbance to nearby properties.
- For the final hour of opening the music will be discernibly quieter.
- The playing of live or recorded music in garden areas of the premises will not be permitted after a specified time.

### **Noxious smells**

- Noxious smells from licensed premises are not permitted so as to cause a nuisance to nearby properties and the premises are properly vented.

### **Light pollution**

- Flashing or particularly bright lights on or outside licensed premises do not cause a nuisance to nearby properties. Any such condition needs to be balanced against the benefits to the prevention of crime and disorder of bright lighting in certain places.

### **Late Night Refreshment**

- A sufficient number of suitable receptacles for refuse storage will be provided. These will have properly fitted covers.
- The receptacles will be maintained in a clean condition.
- Patrons will be prevented from eating and drinking immediately outside the premises after 11pm.

## Conditions relating to public safety (including fire safety)

*It should be noted that conditions relating to public safety should be those, which are necessary, in the particular circumstances of any individual premises or club premises, and should not duplicate other requirements of the law. Equally, the attachment of conditions to a premises licence or club premises certificate will not in any way relieve employers of the statutory duty to comply with the requirements of other legislation including the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974, associated regulations and especially the requirements under the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 and the Fire Precautions (Workplace) Regulations 1997 to undertake risk assessments. Employers should assess the risks, including risks from fire, and take measures necessary to avoid and control these risks. Conditions enforcing those requirements would therefore be unnecessary.*

### General

When applicants for premises licences or club premises certificates are preparing their operating schedules or club operating schedules, responsible authorities are considering such applications and licensing authorities are considering applications following the receipt of relevant representations from a responsible authority or interested party, the following options should be considered as measures that, if necessary, would promote public safety. It should also be recognised that special issues may arise in connection with outdoor and large-scale events.

Whether or not any risk assessment shows any of the measures to be necessary in the individual circumstances of any premises will depend on a range of factors including the nature and style of the venue, the activities being conducted there, the location of the premises and the anticipated clientele of the business involved.

In addition, to considering the points made in this appendix, those preparing operating schedules or club operating schedules, licensing authorities and responsible authorities should consider:

- Model National and Standard Conditions for Places of Public Entertainment and Associated Guidance ISBN 1 904031 11 0 (Entertainment Technology Press – ABTT Publications);
- The Event Safety Guide – A guide to health, safety and welfare at music and similar events (HSE 1999) (“The Purple Book”) ISBN 0 7176 2453 6;
- Managing Crowds Safely (HSE 2000) ISBN 0 7176 1834 X;
- 5 Steps to Risk Assessment: Case Studies (HSE 1998) ISBN 07176 15804;
- The Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds (The Stationery Office, 1997) (“The Green Guide”) ISBN 0 11 300095 2;
- Safety Guidance for Street Arts, Carnival, Processions and Large Scale Performances published by the Independent Street Arts Network, copies of which may be obtained through [www.streetartsnetwork.org/pages/publications](http://www.streetartsnetwork.org/pages/publications)

The following British Standards should also be considered:

- BS 5588 Part 6 (regarding places of assembly)
- BS 5588 Part 9 (regarding ventilation and air conditioning systems)
- BS 5588 Part 9 (regarding means of escape for disabled people)
- BS 5839 (fire detection, fire alarm systems and buildings)
- BS 5266 (emergency lighting systems)

However, in consulting these texts, which were prepared prior to the coming into force of the Licensing Act 2003, those creating operating schedules or club operating schedules, licensing authorities and responsible authorities should again note that under no circumstances should any conditions be regarded as standard for all premises.

Any individual preparing an operating schedule or club operating schedule is at liberty to volunteer any measure, such as those described below, as a step he or she intends to take to promote the licensing objectives. When incorporated into the licence or certificate as a condition, they become enforceable under the law and a breach of such a condition could give rise to prosecution.

## **Disabled people**

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public, consideration might also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- When disabled people are present, adequate arrangements exist to enable their safe evacuation in the event of an emergency; and
- Disabled people on the premises are made aware of those arrangements.

## **Escape routes**

It may be necessary to include conditions relating to the maintenance of all escape routes and exits including external exits. These might be expressed in terms of the need to ensure that such exits are kept unobstructed, in good order with non-slippery and even surfaces, free of trip hazards and clearly identified. In restaurants and other premises where chairs and tables are provided this might also include ensuring that internal gangways are kept unobstructed.

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public, consideration might also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- All exits doors are easily openable without the use of a key, card, code or similar means;
- Doors at such exits are regularly checked to ensure that they function satisfactorily and a record of the check kept;
- Any security fastenings are removed prior to the premises being open to the public;
- All fire doors are maintained effectively self-closing and shall not be held open;
- Fire resisting doors to ducts, service shafts, and cupboards shall be kept locked shut; and
- The edges of the treads of steps and stairways are maintained so as to be conspicuous.

## **Safety checks**

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- Safety checks are carried out before the admission of the public; and
- Details of such checks are kept in a Log-book.

## **Curtains, hangings, decorations and upholstery**

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- Hangings, curtains and temporary decorations are maintained in a flame-retardant condition;
- Any upholstered seating meets on a continuous basis the pass criteria for smouldering ignition source 0, flaming ignition source 1 and crib ignition source 5 when tested in accordance with section 5 of BS 5852:1990;
- Curtains, hangings and temporary decorations are arranged so as not to obstruct exits, fire safety signs or fire-fighting equipment; and
- Temporary decorations are not used without the consent of the licensing authority.

## **Accommodation limits**

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- Arrangements are made to ensure that any capacity limit imposed under the premises licence or club premises certificate are not exceeded; and
- The licence holder, a club official, manager or designated premises supervisor should be aware of the number of people on the premises and required to inform any authorised person on request.

## **Fire action notices**

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- Notices detailing the actions to be taken in the event of fire or other emergencies, including how the fire brigade should be summoned, are prominently displayed and protected from damage and deterioration.

## **Outbreaks of fire**

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- The fire brigade must be called at once to any outbreak of fire, however slight, and the details recorded in a Fire Log-book.

## **Loss of water**

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- The local Fire Control Centre are notified as soon as possible if the water supply to any hydrant, hose reel, sprinkler, drencher or other fire extinguishing installation is cut off or restricted.

## **Access for emergency vehicles**

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- Access for emergency vehicles is kept clear and free from obstruction.

## **First aid**

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- Adequate and appropriate supply of first aid equipment and materials is available on the premises;
- If necessary, at least one suitably trained first-aider shall be on duty when the public are present; and if more than one suitably trained first-aider that their respective duties are clearly defined.

## **Lighting**

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- In the absence of adequate daylight, the lighting in any area accessible to the public, members or guests shall be fully in operation when they are present.
- Fire safety signs are adequately illuminated.
- Emergency lighting is not be altered.
- Emergency lighting batteries are fully charged before the admission of the public, members or guests.
- In the event of the failure of normal lighting, where the emergency lighting battery has a capacity of one hour, arrangements are in place to ensure that the public, members or

guests leave the premises within 20 minutes unless within that time normal lighting has been restored and the battery is being re-charged; and, if the emergency lighting battery has a capacity of three hours, the appropriate period by the end of which the public should have left the premises is one hour.

### **Temporary electrical installations**

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- Temporary electrical wiring and distribution systems are not provided without notification to the licensing authority at least ten days before commencement of the work.
- Temporary electrical wiring and distribution systems shall comply with the recommendations of BS 7671 or where applicable BS 7909.
- Where they have not been installed by a competent person, temporary electrical wiring and distribution systems are inspected and certified by a competent qualified person before they are put to use.

### **Indoor Sports Entertainments**

In certain premises where existing legislation does not provide adequately for the safety of the public or club members and guests, consideration might also be given to conditions that ensure that:

- If necessary, an appropriately qualified medical practitioner is present throughout a sports entertainment involving boxing, wrestling, judo, karate or other sports entertainment of a similar nature.
- Where a ring is involved, it is constructed and supported to the satisfaction of the licensing authority and any material used to form the skirt around the ring is flame-retardant.
- At any wrestling or other entertainments of a similar nature members of the public do not occupy any seat within 2.5 metres of the ring.
- At water sports entertainments, staff adequately trained in rescue and life safety procedures are stationed and remain within the vicinity of the water at all material times (see also Managing Health and Safety in Swimming Pools issued jointly by the Health and Safety Commission and Sport England)

### **Alterations to the premises**

Premises should not be altered in such a way as to make it impossible to comply with an existing licence condition without first seeking a variation of the premises licence proposing the deletion of the condition relating to public safety in question. The applicant will need to propose in a new operating schedule reflecting the proposed alteration to the premises how he or she intends to take alternative steps to promote the public safety objective. The application for variation will enable the responsible authorities with expertise in safety matters to consider whether the proposal is acceptable.

### **Special effects**

The use of special effects in venues of all kinds being used for regulated entertainment is increasingly common and can present significant risks. Any special effects or mechanical installation should be arranged and stored so as to minimise any risk to the safety of the audience, the performers and staff.

Special effects which should be considered include:

- dry ice machines and cryogenic fog;
- smoke machines and fog generators;
- pyrotechnics, including fireworks;
- real flame;
- firearms;
- motor vehicles;

- strobe lighting;
- lasers (see HSE Guide The Radiation Safety of lasers used for display purposes [HS(G)95] and BS EN 60825: Safety of laser products);
- explosives and highly flammable substances.
- In certain circumstances, it may be necessary to require that certain special effects are only used with the prior notification of the licensing authority or [inspection by] the fire authority.

## **Theatres and Cinemas (Promotion of Public Safety)**

In addition to the points made above, there are particular matters in the context of public safety and fire safety, which should be considered in connection with theatres and cinemas. The principle remains that conditions must be necessary and should be established through risk assessment and standardised conditions should be avoided. The points that follow are for consideration and do not represent a mandatory list.

### **Premises used for Closely Seated Audiences**

#### **Attendants**

The number of attendants on each floor in a closely seated auditorium should be as set out on the table below:

Number of members of the audience present on a floor	Minimum number of attendants required present on that floor
1 - 100	One
101 – 250	Two
251 - 500	Three
501 - 750	Four
751 -1000	Five
And one additional attendant for each additional 250 persons (or part thereof)	

Attendants shall not be engaged in any duties that would hinder the prompt discharge of their duties in the event of an emergency or entail their absence from that floor or auditorium where they are on duty.

Any attendant shall be readily identifiable to the audience (but this need not entail the wearing of a uniform)

The premises shall not be used for a closely seated audience except in accordance with seating plan(s), a copy of which is available at the premises and shall be shown to any authorised person on request.

No article shall be attached to the back of any seat which would reduce the clear width of seatways or cause a tripping hazard or obstruction.

A copy of any certificate relating to the design, construction and loading of any temporary seating shall be kept available at the premises and shall be shown to any authorised person on request.

#### **Standing and Sitting in Gangways etc**

Sitting on floors shall not be permitted except where authorised in the premises licence or club premises certificate.

Waiting or standing shall not be permitted except in areas designated in the premises licence or club premises certificate.

In no circumstances shall anyone be permitted to

- sit in any gangway
- stand or sit in front of any exit; or
- stand or sit on any staircase including any landings.

### **Drinks**

Except as authorised by the premises licence or club premises certificate, no drinks shall be sold to or be consumed by a closely seated audience except in plastic and paper containers.

### **Balcony Fronts**

Clothing or other objects shall not be placed over balcony rails or upon balcony fronts.

### **Special effects**

Any special effects or mechanical installation should be arranged and stored so as to minimise any risk to the safety of the audience, the performers and staff.

Specials effects include:

- Dry ice machines and cryogenic fog
- Smoke machines and fog generators
- Pyrotechnics, including fireworks
- Real flame
- Firearms
- Motor vehicles
- Strobe lighting
- Lasers (see HSE Guide The Radiation Safety of lasers used for display purposes [HS(G)95] and BS EN 60825: Safety of laser products)
- Explosives and highly flammable substances

In certain circumstances, it may be necessary to require that certain special effects are only used with the prior consent of the licensing authority.

### **Scenery**

Any scenery should be maintained flame-retardant.

### **Safety curtain**

Where a safety curtain is provided, it should be arranged so as to protect the audience from the effects of a fire or smoke on stage for sufficient time to enable the safe evacuation of the auditorium.

Where a stage with a proscenium arch is not equipped with a safety curtain, any curtains provided between the stage and the auditorium should be heavyweight and be made of non-combustible material or inherently or durably treated flame-retarded fabric.

### **Ceilings**

All ceilings in those parts of the premises to which the audience are admitted should be inspected by a suitably qualified person every five years and a certificate concerning the condition of the ceilings forwarded to the licensing authority.

### **Seating**

Where the potential audience exceeds 250 all seats in the auditorium should, except in boxes accommodating not more than 8 persons, be either securely fixed to the floor or battened together in lengths of not fewer than four or more than twelve.

### **Premises used for Film Exhibitions**

#### **Attendants - premises without a staff alerting system**

Where the premises are not equipped with a staff alerting system the number of attendants present should be as set out in the table below:

Number of members of the audience present on the premises	Minimum number of attendants required to be on duty
1 - 250	Two
And one additional attendant for each additional 250 members of the audience present (or part thereof)	
Where there are more than 150 members of an audience in any auditorium or on any floor	At least one attendant shall be present in any auditorium or on any floor

### **Attendants – with a staff alerting system**

Where premises are equipped with a staff alerting system the number of attendants present should be as set out in the table below:

Number of members of the audience present on the premises	Minimum number of attendants required to be on duty	Minimum number of staff on the premises who are available to assist in the event of an emergency
1 - 500	Two	One
501 - 1000	Three	Two
1001 - 1500	Four	Four
1501 or more	Five plus one for every 500 (or part thereof) persons over 2000 on the premises	Five plus one for every 500 (or part thereof) persons over 2000 on the premises

Staff shall not be considered as being available to assist in the event of an emergency if they are:

- the holder of the premises licence or the manager on duty at the premises; or
- a member of staff whose normal duties or responsibilities are likely to significantly affect or delay his response in an emergency situation; or
- a member of staff whose usual location when on duty is more than 60 metres from the location to which he is required to go on being alerted to an emergency situation.

Attendants shall as far as reasonably practicable be evenly distributed throughout all parts of the premises to which the public have access and keep under observation all parts of the premises to which the audience have access.

The staff alerting system shall be maintained in working order.

### **Minimum Lighting**

The level of lighting in the auditorium should be as great as possible consistent with the effective presentation of the film; and the level of illumination maintained in the auditorium during the showing of films would normally be regarded as satisfactory if it complies with the standards specified in BS CP 1007 (Maintained Lighting for Cinemas).

### **Flammable films**

No flammable films should be allowed on the premises without the consent of the licensing authority.