

PLANS for premises licence applications

ADVICE SHEET

These advice notes are provided for guidance only and are not a complete explanation of the law.

Although not a legal requirement, please mark the boundary of area to be licensed in red or bold black. This makes it clearer for everybody who wishes to comment on the plans.

Plans

Plans, for written and electronic applications, will not be required to be submitted in any particular scale, but they must be in a format which is “clear and legible in all material respects”, i.e. they must be accessible and provides sufficient detail for the licensing authority to be able to determine the application, including the relative size of any features relevant to the application. There is no requirement for plans to be professionally drawn as long as they clearly show all the prescribed information.

Q. Do the plans have to be in a set format?

Yes. The regulations are very clear on how the plans should be drawn up and what they should include.

Q. Can I use an existing plan?

Yes but you must still include the requirements and you will need extra copies for the responsible authorities.

The plan **MUST** show-

- (a) the extent of the boundary of the building, if relevant, and any external and internal walls of the building and, if different, the perimeter of the premises;
- (b) the location of points of access to and egress from the premises;
- (c) if different from sub-paragraph (b), the location of escape routes from the premises;
- (d) in a case where the premises is to be used for more than one licensable activity, the area within the premises used for each activity;
- (e) fixed structures (including furniture) or similar objects temporarily in a fixed location (but not furniture) which may impact on the ability of individuals on the premises to use exits or escape routes without impediment;
- (f) in a case where the premises includes a stage or raised area, the location and height of each stage or area relative to the floor;
- (g) in a case where the premises includes any steps, stairs, elevators or lifts, the location of the steps, stairs, elevators or lifts;
- (h) in the case where the premises includes any room or rooms containing public conveniences, the location of the room or rooms;

(i) the location and type of any fire safety and any other safety equipment including, if applicable, marine safety equipment; and

(j) the location of a kitchen, if any, on the premises.

The Plan may include a legend through which the matters mentioned or referred to in the above paragraph are sufficiently illustrated by the use of symbols on the plan.

Beer gardens or other outdoor spaces

Applicants will want to consider whether they might want to use a garden or other outdoor space as a location from which alcohol will be consumed. The sale of alcohol is to be treated as taking place where the alcohol is appropriated to the contract. In scenarios where drink orders are taken by a member of staff in the garden or outdoor space and the member of staff then collects the drinks from the licensed premises and returns to deliver them to the customer this would be treated as an off-sale and any conditions that relate to off-sales would apply.

In such cases it will be not necessary to include the garden or other outdoor space on the plan as part of the area covered by the premises licence. However, it will be necessary for the applicant to include the garden or other outdoor space on the plan as part of the area covered by the premises licence if the intention is to provide a service whereby drinks are available for sale and consumption directly from that area (i.e. the provision of on-sales). This would apply in the case of an outdoor bar or a service whereby a member of staff who is in the garden or outdoor space carries with them drinks that are available for sale (without the need for the staff member to return to the licensed premises to collect them).