

Introduction

The Licensing Act 2003 (the Act) focuses on the promotion of four statutory licensing objectives which must be addressed when licensing functions are undertaken. The four licensing objectives are:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of children from harm

The aim of this code is to provide applicants and licensees with guidance on good practice for the promotion of the four licensing objectives which are paramount considerations at all times. The code is consistent with the Home Office guidance issued under section 182 of the Act and with the City of London's statement of licensing policy. It outlines what the City of London licensing authority and its responsible authority partners expect in practical terms from applicants when completing their operating schedules and from licensees when operating their premises under the terms of a premises licence.

The code identifies possible risks associated with the sale of alcohol and the provision of entertainment or late night refreshment and sets out good practice measures to mitigate those risks. It provides a key mechanism for the promotion of the licensing objectives and for well run premises and a responsible approach to alcohol, entertainment and late night refreshment in the City of London. It is recognised that not every risk will be relevant to all premises, and the code cannot anticipate every possible risk, problem or set of circumstances that may arise from licensed premises. Neither does the code restrict an applicant or licence holder from promoting the licensing objectives through alternative means.

The code is not a statutory document but it will be taken into consideration and used by the licensing authority and responsible authorities as follows:

- when responding to licence applications where the licensing objectives have not been adequately addressed in the operating schedule;
- as a first point of dealing with licensed premises encountering problems, to raise standards to promote the licensing objectives in those premises and avoid further problems; and
- for the review of licences where there is evidence that licensees have not promoted the licensing objectives.

The routine monitoring of licensed premises will be undertaken by the licensing authority and responsible authorities and findings under the four licensing objectives will be brought together. Problems or concerns with licensed premises will be identified and flagged up at an early stage and advice will be offered to licensees with a view to improving standards at their premises and to prevent or minimise subsequent problems. The aim of the code is to avoid the need for enforcement action such as prosecution or review but it will not replace enforcement action where it is necessary.

The code will also be used by the licensing authority and its licensing liaison partners to acknowledge and support well run premises through schemes such as Safety Thirst.

General – all four licensing objectives

This section provides guidance on good practice for the general promotion of all four licensing objectives at licensed premises. It is intended to help those applying for new licences or variations to existing licences in completing their operating schedules. It is also designed to guide licensees on the general promotion of the licensing objectives after a licence has been granted.

Risk	Good practice measure
Lack of knowledge or understanding of the Licensing Act 2003	<p>G1 (a) Well trained staff will contribute to well run premises and a responsible approach to the sale of alcohol, provision of entertainment and late night refreshment. Formal qualifications for your staff, either to Personal Licence level or to another appropriate standard recognised by bodies such as the British Institute of Innkeepers (BII) would be preferential.</p> <p>(b) All staff should be advised of licensing law in writing before they are allowed to serve alcohol.</p> <p>(c) A record should be kept of the date and name of person trained or advised and be made available for inspection by the police or licensing authority.</p>

Prevention of crime and disorder

This section provides guidance on good practice for the prevention of crime and disorder from licensed premises. It is intended to help those applying for new licences or variations to existing licences in completing their operating schedules. It is also designed to guide licensees on the prevention and management of crime and disorder from their premises after a licence has been granted.

Risk	Good practice measure
Security in and around the premises	<p>CD1 (a) An alarm or other security measure should be installed at the premises to protect it when closed or empty.</p> <p>(b) Emergency exits should be alarmed when the premises are open to the public so that staff are immediately notified of unauthorised opening or tampering.</p> <p>(c) Any staff or private areas and cellars should be kept locked and secured whilst the premises are open to the public.</p> <p>CD2 (a) CCTV should be installed inside and/or outside the premises, ensuring the date and time settings are correct.</p> <p>(b) The recordings should be in real time and on hard drive with the availability to copy disks for other agencies such as the police.</p> <p>(c) For analogue systems, tapes should be changed daily and used no more than 12 times.</p> <p>(d) Recordings should be kept for a minimum period of 31 days.</p> <p>(e) Staff should be trained in the maintenance and operation of such systems with a record kept of the date and name of person trained. Records should be made available for inspection by the police or licensing authority.</p> <p>(f) A trained member of staff should be on duty to operate the system whenever the premises licence is in use.</p> <p>CD3 External lighting provides an obvious means of crime deterrence. Care should be taken so that lighting does not impact on neighbours.</p>

Risk	Good practice measure
<p>Security in and around the premises (cont)</p>	<p>CD4 (a) Security systems should be integrated so that the alarm, CCTV and lighting work together in an effective manner.</p> <p>(b) The alarm should be linked to a system that will notify the police if it is activated.</p> <p>CD5 (a) Door staff and/or stewards should be employed at the venue to supervise admissions and customers inside the venue.</p> <p>(b) Any person performing the role of a door supervisor must be licensed with the Security Industry Authority (SIA) and SIA badges must be clearly displayed whilst working.</p> <p>(c) Door staff should be easily identifiable by wearing a uniform or high visibility jackets.</p> <p>(d) Door staff should sign into a register detailing their full SIA licence number, their name, the time and date their duty commenced and concluded.</p> <p>(e) Stewards and other staff at the premises should also be easily identifiable.</p> <p>CD6 (a) Effective security policies based on risk assessments can protect your premises, staff and customers from threats, conflict or violence.</p> <p>(b) Security policies should be formulated in consultation with the City of London Police licensing team.</p> <p>(c) All staff must be aware of a premises security policy with a record kept of the date and name of person trained. Records should be made available for inspection by the police or licensing authority.</p> <p>(d) Premises should be searched inside and out for suspect packages before, during and after opening hours. Staff should be trained to remain vigilant during opening hours and report any suspicious activity to the Police.</p> <p>CD7 Security reviews should be held regularly and at least every three months with minutes kept.</p> <p>CD8 (a) Daily staff briefing and debriefing will enable licensees to improve working practices in their premises.</p>

Risk	Good practice measure
<p>Security in and around the premises (cont)</p>	<p>(b) Briefings can be informal but any problems identified and remedial action taken should be recorded with records kept in the main office.</p>
<p>Crime including conflict, violence or aggression in and around the premises</p>	<p>CD9 (a) Promoted events may attract larger than usual crowds and particular promotions may have violent or aggressive followers, rival gangs or other crime and disorder associated with them.</p> <p>(b) Such events must have a comprehensive risk assessment undertaken by the licence holder and submitted to the City of London Police licensing team at least 14 days in advance of the proposed event.</p> <p>(c) It is expected that promoters should have obtained the BIIAB level 2 for music promoters.</p> <p>(d) In the event that a problem should arise during a promoted event, this should be documented by the licence holder and it is expected that a debrief form will be provided to the City of London Police licensing team within 48 hours of the event.</p> <p>CD10 (a) Proper management of the door will depend on the size and type of venue. The number of door supervisors should be determined by a risk assessment taking into account the size of venue and the type of crowd the entertainment is likely to attract, but at the very least on a ratio of 1 door supervisor per 50 customers.</p> <p>(b) Consideration should be given to a sufficient provision of male and female door staff.</p> <p>CD11 A door admissions policy including any age restrictions, expected dress standards or the screening of hand bags should be widely publicised on any promotional material or website and clearly displayed at the entrance to the premises.</p> <p>CD12 (a) Ejecting or refusing entry to persons from the premises if they do not meet your admissions standards or they are known to be violent or aggressive.</p> <p>(b) In such cases, an entry should be made in an incident or log book</p>

Risk	Good practice measure
<p>Crime including conflict, violence or aggression in and around the premises (cont)</p>	<p>CD13 (a) A policy to manage capacity should be adopted to prevent overcrowding and patrons possibly becoming aggressive through accidental jostling.</p> <p>(b) The use of clickers, tickets or head counts may be appropriate.</p> <p>(c) Consideration should be given to deliberately running below capacity to afford a comfort factor to your patrons and avoid conflict, violence or aggression within the premises.</p> <p>CD14 (a) Alternatives to glass drinking vessels should be considered to prevent glassware being used as an assault weapon, particularly during promoted events.</p> <p>(b) Drinking vessels made from plastic or polycarbonate would be preferential particularly in outside areas.</p> <p>(c) Where alternatives are not used, there should be a robust glass collection policy in place. This should include regular collection of glassware by staff and prevention of glassware being removed from the premises.</p> <p>CD15 (a) Measures to preserve a crime scene until police arrival, following the outbreak of disorder or any other crime should be clearly documented in a policy.</p> <p>(b) Such a policy should be formulated in consultation with the City of London Police licensing team.</p> <p>(c) All staff must receive training on the policy with a record kept of the date and name of person trained. Records should be made available for inspection by the police or licensing authority</p> <p>CD16 (a) Staff training in conflict management should be provided to give them the knowledge and confidence to deal with difficult situations and reduce crime and disorder at the premises.</p> <p>(b) Training should also cover dealing with, logging and reporting incidents if they occur.</p> <p>(c) A record should be kept of the date and name of person trained. Records should be made available for inspection by the police or licensing authority.</p>

Risk	Good practice measure
<p>Crime including conflict, violence or aggression in and around the premises (cont)</p>	<p>CD17 Sharing of information with others in the industry. Regular meetings, the use of local radio networks or membership of a local pub/club watch schemes will enable information to be passed on about trouble makers and common problems in the area.</p>
<p>Drugs and weapons being brought into the premises</p>	<p>CD18 (a) A zero tolerance policy to the use of drugs and carrying of weapons in the premises should be adopted with a clear “no search no entry” message.</p> <p>(b) Posters can be displayed throughout the premises to remind customers of zero tolerance policy.</p> <p>CD19 (a) Effective search policies will minimise the opportunity for drugs and weapons to be brought into licensed premises and lead to drug and weapon seizure if attempts are made.</p> <p>(b) The use of search arches and wands may be appropriate in some cases.</p> <p>(c) Search policies should be formulated in consultation with the City of London Police licensing team.</p> <p>(d) Search policies must be advertised widely on tickets, promotional leaflets and on websites and prominently in the premises entrance and queuing area.</p> <p>(e) Searches should always be carried out in public areas.</p> <p>(f) All staff must be trained on search policies with a record kept of the date and name of person trained. Records should be made available for inspection by the police or licensing authority.</p> <p>CD20 (a) Ejecting customers from the premises if they are suspected of being in possession of drugs or weapons.</p> <p>(b) In such cases, an entry should be made in an incident or log book.</p> <p>CD21 (a) Seizing, retaining and documenting any drugs or weapons found with a clear audit trail and a process for surrendering them to the Police.</p>

Risk	Good practice measure
<p>Drugs and weapons being brought into the premises (cont)</p>	<p>(b) A search policy should clearly set out procedures that must be followed by staff should they find drugs or weapons during a search, including the use of tamper proof bags and safe storage of seized items, details that need to be recorded and circumstances when the police should be called.</p> <p>CD22 (a) Supervising toilet areas can be effective in discouraging drug selling or use.</p> <p>(b) Regular toilet checks such as swabbing should be considered and where conducted, these should be documented with date, time and finding recorded.</p> <p>(c) Removal of flat surfaces in toilet areas can reduce the likelihood of drug misuse</p> <p>CD23 Drug awareness training should be provided for all staff. A record should be kept of the date and name of person trained. Records should be made available for inspection by the police or licensing authority.</p>
<p>Theft from premises or lost property</p>	<p>CD24 Bag hooks (Chelsea clips) should be provided to prevent bag snatching.</p> <p>CD25 Clear signage should be displayed throughout the premises about crime prevention and to warn customers of the potential for pickpockets and bag/laptop snatchers.</p> <p>CD26 Property patrols, managed cloakrooms and toilet attendants can be employed to prevent theft from patrons or the premises.</p> <p>CD27 Premises layout and lighting should be considered. Secluded or dimly lit parts of the premises should be avoided as they can encourage crime.</p> <p>CD28 Mirrors used throughout the premises can aid supervision and act as deterrents to thieves.</p> <p>CD29 A lost and found policy should be in place in relation to lost/found property at the premises. The policy should include procedures regarding the logging and disposal of property and in particular any valuable property. Passports and any other ID found should be handed in to any police station.</p>

Risk	Good practice measure
<p>Theft from premises or lost property (cont)</p>	<p>CD30 (a) Carefully positioning alcohol in retail premises can reduce theft from the premises. Alcohol is a key target for shop thieves so it is best not to place alcoholic beverages within the first few metres near the door as this allows thieves to 'grab and run'.</p> <p>(b) It may be helpful for alcohol display areas to be covered by CCTV if possible.</p> <p>CD31 Security tagging any items considered a specific target for theft, particularly alcoholic drinks over a certain price level will deter thieves.</p>
<p>Disorder from customers queuing to enter the premises or when leaving the premises</p>	<p>CD32 Reduce the potential for excessive queue lines with a well managed and efficient door policy. Long queuing times can cause people to become agitated or aggressive. Searches should therefore be conducted as quickly and effectively as possible.</p> <p>CD33 (a) A customer dispersal policy can minimise the potential for disorder from customers leaving the premises. A policy should clearly set out measures to avoid a mass exit at the end of the evening such as a gradual change in music style and increasing lighting levels.</p> <p>(b) Sufficient staff should be available at the end of the evening to manage a controlled shut down of the premises and maintain good order as customers leave.</p> <p>CD34 (a) Staff training in preventing disorder should be provided to give them the knowledge and confidence to deal with difficult situations.</p> <p>(b) A record should be kept of the date and name of person trained. Records should be made available for inspection by the police or licensing authority</p>
<p>Customers getting drunk and dealing with drunken customers</p>	<p>CD35 (a) Drinks promotions should be socially responsible and not encourage excessive drinking.</p> <p>(b) A documented policy on responsible drinks promotions should be in place at the premises and should adhere to industry codes such as those recommended by the British Beer and Pub Association (BBPA) and The Portman Group. This is in addition to adherence with the mandatory licensing condition regarding irresponsible promotions.</p>

Risk	Good practice measure
<p>Customers getting drunk and dealing with drunken customers (cont)</p>	<p>(c) Any drinks promotion should market the availability of soft drinks</p> <p>CD36 (a) Staff training on the effects of alcohol and how to spot early signs of customers becoming drunk should be provided to give them the knowledge and confidence to deal with drunken patrons.</p> <p>(b) Staff should be aware of their responsibilities under the Licensing Act 2003 and be able to recognise appropriate 'cut off' points for serving drunken customers, so as to reduce the likelihood of fights or aggressive behaviour.</p> <p>(c) When staff are collecting glasses, they can interact with customers and assess the levels of drunkenness. Any concerns should be reported back to a manager.</p> <p>(d) A record should be kept of the date and name of person trained. Records should be made available for inspection by the police or licensing authority.</p> <p>CD37 A duty of care policy regarding persons suffering adversely from the effects of drink should be in place at the premises. The policy should clearly express that every effort will be made by staff to prevent patrons from deteriorating to an uncontrolled intoxicated extent. All staff must be briefed on the policy.</p> <p>CD38 Drink-aware posters can be displayed in the premises to remind customers of safe and sensible alcohol consumption limits.</p>
<p>Consumption of alcohol on the street and street drinkers</p>	<p>CD39 Restrict the sale of strong beer and cider above 5.5% ABV and the sale of single cans or bottles of beer and cider. Such sales can contribute to anti social behaviour and disorder through the consumption of alcohol on the street and in open spaces by street drinkers or persons who are already drunk.</p>
<p>Sale of alcohol outside permitted hours</p>	<p>CD40 Lockable shutters can be fitted on display units for alcohol in retail premises, which can be closed and locked at the end of permitted hours.</p>

Public Safety

This section provides guidance on good practice for the promotion of public safety at licensed premises. It is intended to help those applying for new licences or variations to existing licences in completing their operating schedules. It is also designed to guide licensees on the promotion and management of public safety at their premises after a licence has been granted.

Risk	Good practice measure
<p>General safety of staff and customers</p>	<p>PS1 (a) A full risk assessment taking into account public safety should be carried out at the premises to identify potential hazards posed to staff and customers and setting out the precautions taken to manage the hazards. Templates can be found on the Health and Safety Executive website. A risk assessment should be regularly reviewed.</p> <p>(b) All staff should be made aware of the risk assessment and precautionary measures therein.</p> <p>(c) A copy of the risk assessment should be kept at the premises and made available for inspection.</p> <p>PS2 First aid boxes should be available at the premises and maintained with sufficient in date stock.</p> <p>PS3 (a) A recognised qualification in first aid should be held by at least one member of staff who should be on duty at all times the premises licence is in use.</p> <p>(b) Other staff should be trained to a basic first aid standard with records kept of the date and name of person trained.</p> <p>PS4 A first aid room or quiet room should be made available to anyone requiring medical attention.</p> <p>PS5 Temperature levels and humidity in venues should be controlled for the comfort and safety of customers. An environment that is too hot or too cold can make customers irritable. Premises should be adequately heated and ventilated to avoid this. This can be achieved through use of air conditioning systems or natural ventilation in non-residential areas.</p>
<p>Overcrowding</p>	<p>PS6 A documented capacity should be set for the premises overall and for individual rooms within the premises. Capacity can be determined by a premises risk assessment in consultation with the fire safety authority.</p>

<p>Overcrowding (cont)</p>	<p>The risk assessment should consider factors such as floor space, numbers of toilets, potential queuing time and available fire exits.</p> <p>PS7 (a) A policy to manage the capacity should be adopted to prevent overcrowding and localised overcrowding.</p> <p>(b) The use of electronic clocking systems, clickers, ticket sales or head counts may be appropriate.</p> <p>(c) Consideration should be given to deliberately running below capacity to afford a comfort factor to your patrons.</p>
<p>Accumulation and disposal of glasses / drinking vessels</p>	<p>PS8 (a) A glass collection policy should include provisions for regular collection of glassware by staff and the prevention of glassware from being taken into external areas. Glassware should not be allowed to accumulate or cause obstruction.</p> <p>(b) Perimeter checks should be made outside the premises for any glasses or bottles.</p> <p>(c) All staff must be made aware of the glass collection policy and their responsibility for the task</p> <p>PS9 Spillages and broken glass should be cleaned up immediately to prevent floors from becoming slippery and unsafe.</p> <p>PS10 Bottle bins should be secure at all times and away from public areas.</p>
<p>Accident or other emergency incident on the premises</p>	<p>PS11 (a) A written policy to deal with all types of accidents & emergency incidents should be in place at the premises.</p> <p>(b) The policy should be based on risk assessments and include matters such as emergency management, contingency planning and evacuation procedures in the event of fire, bomb threats or suspect packages and when to contact emergency services.</p> <p>(c) Evacuation responsibilities and roles should be clearly communicated to staff, routes and exits should be well defined and evacuation plans exercised regularly.</p>

Accident or other emergency incident on the premises (cont)

(d) A copy of the fire risk assessment should be kept at the premises and made available for inspection by the fire authority and licensing authority.

PS12 A fire detection system should be in place at the premises and should be fully functional at all times. The system should be tested regularly with records kept and made available for inspection.

PS13 Means of escape in case of any emergency must be clearly visible, unobstructed and well maintained including areas outside exits leading to a place of ultimate safety such as the street.

PS14 (a) Staff training in fire safety and any premises safety policy should be provided for all staff to give them the knowledge and confidence to deal with emergency situations, including location of equipment, utilities, services and layout of premises. Training should include how to use fire extinguishers.

(b) Records should be kept of the date and name of person trained and made available for inspection.

PS15 An accident book should be kept in order to record all accidents or incidents and made available for inspection.

Drug use or drink spiking

PS16 (a) A zero tolerance policy to the use of drugs in the premises should be adopted.

(b) Posters can be displayed throughout the premises to remind customers of the zero tolerance policy.

PS17 Refusing entry to anyone who appears to be showing signs of drug use and contacting the emergency services in appropriate circumstances. In such cases, an entry should be made in an incident log book.

PS18 (a) A duty of care policy regarding persons suffering adversely from the effects of drugs should be in place at the premises. The policy should include drug awareness training for all staff so that they can recognise the effects of controlled drugs and provide medical attention where necessary.

(b) All staff must be briefed on the policy. A record should be kept of the date and name of person trained.

<p>Drug use or drink spiking (cont)</p>	<p>PS19 (a) Prevent the possibility of drink spiking by offering various anti drink spiking products to customers.</p> <p>(b) If a customer suspects that their drink has been spiked, you should report it to the police immediately. A process for this should be clearly set out in your duty of care policy.</p> <p>PS20 A ‘chill out’ area should be provided. This should be cooler and quieter than rest of venue.</p>
<p>Smoking on the premises</p>	<p>PS21 Staff should be aware of their responsibilities regarding smoke-free legislation and for monitoring compliance.</p>
<p>Safety of customers when leaving the premises</p>	<p>PS22 Discourage drink driving by promoting schemes such as Designated Driver, with notices clearly displayed throughout the premises.</p> <p>PS23 (a) Display information to customers with regards to safe options for travelling home such as Cabwise. Information should include access to licensed taxi cabs or licensed private hire vehicles, the location of taxi ranks and public transport facilities including night bus options.</p> <p>(b) Provide a free taxi phone service.</p> <p>(c) Provide a safe waiting area for customers inside the premises</p> <p>PS24 (a) A ‘chill out’ period at the end of an evening can allow a slow dispersal from the premises allowing door staff to gain a handle on problem individuals, preventing arguing over taxis or congregation at takeaways and clashes with groups from other venues.</p> <p>(b) Provision of food and non alcoholic drinks during a chill out period can be effective in allowing customers to sober up before leaving the premises.</p> <p>(c) Increased lighting inside the premises should be considered towards the end of an evening to affect the alertness of customers before they leave the premises.</p>