

## Appendix 1 - Report on Licensing Legislation - November 21

Confirm how this Report is to be treated by placing an X and abbreviation in either;

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	For Decision		For Information
Env	Committee		Council

<b>Report on</b>	The Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2021
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	William Wilkinson
<b>Contact Officer</b>	William Wilkinson

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>		Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon		No	
	Information relates to an individual		
	Information is likely to reveal identity of an individual		
	Information relates to financial or business affairs of a person (including the council)		
	Information relates to consultations or negotiations, in relation to labour relations matters		
	Information relates to claim which legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings		
	Reveals that council proposes to give a notice by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or make an order or direction under any statutory provision		
	Relates to action taken or to be taken in connection with prevention, investigation or possession of crime		

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To advise Members on The Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2021 which came into operation on 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2021.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Following Consultations in October 2016 and November 2019, in relation to Liquor Licensing Laws in Northern Ireland, the first phase of the amendments of the relevant sections of the legislation have been introduced and has come into operation on 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2021. It is anticipated that there will be further amendments to the liquor licensing legislation in due course.

2.2	It should be noted that the primary responsibility for the enforcement of the above legislation will be the PSNI. However, there are aspects of the legislation which will directly affect aspects of the entertainment licensing regime for certain venues.
3.0	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p>The main amendments to the liquor licensing legislation is as noted below and as detailed in “The Licensing and Registration of Clubs(Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2021 Guide” – See Appendix 1:</p> <p><b>Section 1 - Removal of restrictions at Easter</b>  Easter weekend permitted hours now mirror what is available for any other weekend throughout the year.  Section 1 of the Act amends Articles 30, 42, 44, 45 and 47 of the Licensing Order by removing all references to Good Friday and Easter Sunday.</p> <p><b>Section 2 - Removal of restrictions on late opening for on-sales on Sunday</b>  Section 2 of the Act amends Articles 30, 42, 44, 45 and 47 of the Licensing Order removes the restrictions on late opening on Sunday nights, this means that closing times on a Sunday will be the same as any other night. It is important to note, there will be no changes to the opening times for licensed premises on a Sunday.</p> <p><b>Section 3 - Public houses and hotels; further additional hours</b>  Section 3 of the Act allows pubs and hotels (which already have an Article 44 order) to apply to the courts for later opening for an additional hour, up to 104 nights in any year. Food and/or entertainment will need to continue to be provided during late opening.  This is not an automatic entitlement – licensees must apply for these additional hours, if they choose to do so.</p> <p><b>Section 4 - Alignment of closing time for liquor and entertainment</b>  Section 4 of the Act, introduces Article 44C of the Licensing Order which means that entertainment provided during later opening must stop at the end of “drinking-up” time. This effectively means that Entertainment licences can be issued up to 3am on a premises where a further additional hours order has been granted.</p> <p>Currently, where possible, the majority of Entertainment Licences issued by this Council reflect the existing liquor licensing hours. It will not be an offence to provide entertainment beyond the latest time currently licensed, provided the entertainment does not go on beyond the latest hour for the consumption of alcohol, therefore there will be no need to amend entertainment licences already issued until such times as the licence is being renewed and the applicant can demonstrate there is a further additional hours order in place.  Where an entertainment licence goes beyond the latest time for consumption of alcoholic drinks, the additional permitted hours are no longer valid, and sales of alcoholic drinks must stop at 11pm.</p>

	<p><b>Section 5 - Police authorisations for additional hours</b>  Section 5 of the Act amends Article 45 of the Licensing Order to increase the number of late night authorisations the police may grant to small pubs from 20 to 104.  Larger pubs, which have an Article 44 order, will also be allowed to apply to the police for late night opening on a night the Article 44 does not cover, until 1am, up to 20 times per year.  Notice of any applications to the police must be displayed on or near the relevant premises during the three weeks before the first occasion to which the application relates. A copy of the notice must also be served on the district council.</p> <p><b>Section 6 - Extension of drinking-up time</b>  Section 6 of the Act amends Article 46 of the Licensing Order to extend the current drinking-up time in all licensed premises from 30 minutes to one hour.</p> <p><b>Section 8 - Licensed race track; Sunday sales</b>  Section 8 of the Act amends Article 42 of the Licensing Order to permit licensed race tracks within the place of public entertainment definition to sell alcoholic drinks on a Sunday.</p> <p><b>Section 27 - Removal of exemption for angostura bitters</b>  Section 27 of the Act amends Article 2 of the Licensing Order which means that Angostura bitters are now categorised as intoxicating liquor and can only be sold in licensed premises.</p> <p>3.2 As noted in Section 4 detailed in 3.1, it is highlighted that the newly introduced legislation now aligns the closing time for liquor and entertainment licensing.</p> <p>Currently, Mid Ulster District Council has a Policy whereby Entertainment Licensed premises may have permitted hours to 2.00 am where requested by the applicant and where PSNI have no comments in relation to Public Order or Disturbance.</p> <p>As a result of the amendments to the legislation, in effect premises cannot provide entertainment beyond the liquor licensing hours which would include the drinking up time of 1 hour. Therefore, where in line with the latest permitted time to sell alcohol and include drinking up time, entertainment is now permitted to continue to 3am in line with the amended legislation.</p> <p>3.3 In addition, where premises do not hold a liquor licence, in order to align the permitted hours from an entertainment licensing perspective, it is considered that Mid Ulster District Council may wish to extend the latest permitted time to 3am where requested for all venues.</p>
4.0	<b>Other Considerations</b>
4.1	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial: Within Current Resources

	Human: Within Current Resources
	Risk Management: None
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	That Members note the content of this report and agree that Entertainment Licensing premises may have permitted hours to 3.00 am where requested by the applicant and where PSNI have no comments in relation to Public Order or Disturbance.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix 1 - The Licensing and Registration of Clubs(Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2021 Guide

Appendix 2 – The Licensing and Registration of Clubs Committee report of 8th March 2022

<b>Report on</b>	The Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2021 – Phase 2
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> March 2022
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Terry Scullion, Assistant Director of Property Services
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Colm Currie, Principal Building Officer

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	The purpose of this report is to advise Members on further changes to the liquor licencing laws in Northern Ireland by virtue of the Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Act (NI) 2021, some of which will have implications for Entertainment Licensing.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, "the Licensing Order", sets out the general licensing systems, including procedures governing the granting or renewal of licences by county/magistrates' courts, permitted hours for the sale of alcoholic drinks, conduct of premises, conditions pertaining to the presence of children in licensed premises, and enforcement. The Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, "the Clubs Order", does the same for the supply of alcoholic drinks in private members' clubs.
2.2	The legislation was amended by the Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, and included measures related to closure powers for police, penalty points, proof of age requirements and irresponsible drinks promotions. These measures were aimed at striking a balance between facilitating the sale of alcoholic drinks, public safety and the public interest. The Licensing of Pavement Cafés Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 inserted Part 5A in the Licensing Order, effectively extending the licensed area of certain premises to a specified public area.
2.3	Following Consultations on Liquor Licensing Laws in October 2016 and November 2019 by the Department in relation to Liquor Licensing Laws in Northern Ireland, views were sought from all interested individuals and organisations on whether any changes to the law could be made in the future to allow a more flexible and modern licensing framework to develop.

2.4	In November 2021 Committee was updated on the first phase of the amendments of the relevant sections of the legislation have been introduced and effective since 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2021. It was resolved that Entertainment Licensing premises may have permitted hours extended to 3.00am where requested by the applicant, and were the PSNI have no comments in relation to Public Order or Disturbance. The report from the meeting of 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 is attached in Appendix 1. Other phases will come into effect over the next few years. This report outlines phase two of the liquor licensing legislation being effective from 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2022.
2.5	It should be noted that the primary responsibility for the enforcement of the above legislation is the PSNI. However, there are aspects of the legislation which will directly affect aspects of the entertainment licensing regime for certain venues.
3.0	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	The Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Act (NI) 2021 amends the Licensing Order and the Registrations of Clubs (NI) 1996 and is attached in appendix 2.
3.2	<p>The key changes, which will take effect in phases are attached in appendix 3, and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All additional restrictions on opening hours over Easter weekend will be removed;</li> <li>• Opening hours on Sunday evenings will be the same as any other night;</li> <li>• Pubs and Hotels can apply to open until 2:00 am, up to 104 nights per year (instead of 1:00 am);</li> <li>• Smaller pubs will be able to open to 1:00 am, up to 104 nights per year;</li> <li>• Drinking-up time will be increased to 1 hour (allowing pubs to stay open until 3am);</li> <li>• There will be flexibility around opening hours for bars at major events;</li> <li>• A new category of licence will be created for local producers of craft beers, ciders and spirits (allowing drink producers to obtain a licence to sell off-sales alcohol and, in limited circumstances, open taprooms so customers can buy drink alcohol on site);</li> <li>• Cinemas will be able to apply for a liquor licence and serve drink to customers watching a movie;</li> <li>• Sporting clubs will be able to use their grounds for functions up to 6 times per year;</li> <li>• Registered clubs will be able to open to 1:00 am, up to 104 nights per year;</li> <li>• Self-service of alcohol and sales by vending machines will be prohibited;</li> <li>• Restrictions will be placed on off-sales drinks promotions;</li> <li>• Loyalty schemes will not be able to award or redeem points for the sale of alcoholic drinks.</li> </ul>
3.3	Phase two amendments have been made to the liquor licensing legislation and detailed below effective from 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2022:



**Section 7: Major Events**

A new Article 48A to the Licensing Order has been added which gives the Department the power designate an event being held in NI, which will attract significant interest, as a major event and make a "major event order".

The Department is currently developing a framework for the processing of major event orders which will be made available at the earliest opportunity.

**Section 9: Places of public entertainment**

This section amends Article 2 of the Licensing Order to include cinemas as a place of public entertainment, allowing them to apply for a licence to sell intoxicating liquor on the premises.

**Section 10: Licence for off-sales**

This section adds local producers of intoxicating liquor to the categories of premises under Article 5(1) of the Licensing Order which may be granted a liquor licence.

Section 10 also adds new Articles 52B, C and D to the Licensing Order which set out specific conditions which apply to a local producer's licence:

Local producer's licence: sales on own premises

New Article 52B allows a local producer of intoxicating liquor to apply for a licence to sell their own products, from their own premises for consumption off the premises. Only intoxicating liquor produced on the premises may be sold.

Local producer's licence: sale on other licensed premises

New Article 52C allows local alcohol producers to sell their own products (produced on their own production premises), for consumption off the premises, in certain other licensed premises to include hotels, conference centres, indoor arena and places specified in an occasional licence.

The sale must be ancillary to an event, which is being held on those premises wholly, or mainly to promote food, drink or craftwork produced in Northern Ireland.

Local producer's licence: sales not on licensed premises

New Article 52D permits local producers of intoxicating liquor to sell their own products, (produced on their own production premises), for consumption off the premises, at a place which is not licensed for the sale of alcohol in any way.

An event must be held at that place which is open to the public to wholly or mainly promote food, drink or craftwork in Northern Ireland.

**Section 12: Requirement for off licence**

A new Article 5A in the Licensing Order requires that where a remote sales of intoxicating liquor takes place in any way other than in person:

- The place of dispatch in Northern Ireland must be licensed to sell intoxicating liquor for consumption off the premises; and

- The person making the sale, personally or by a servant or agent, is the holder of the licence.

This section also amends Article 66 of the Licensing Order (conditions as to delivery of intoxicating liquor), requiring any person, who is not a servant or agent of the licence holder, and who is delivering intoxicating liquor to the purchaser, to make the delivery without reasonable delay, and to have with them a receipt from the holder of the licence for the purchase of intoxicating liquor.

#### **Section 13: Removal of requirements for children's certificates, etc**

This section repeals Article 59 of the Licensing Order (children's certificates) which required licensees to hold a children's certificate if they wished young people under 18 years of age to be allowed in areas of the premises which contained a bar or are used mainly or exclusively for the consumption of intoxicating liquor.

The section makes further amendments to ensure all safeguards remain in place before young people under 18 years of age are allowed in areas of the premises, which contain a bar or are used mainly or exclusively for the consumption of intoxicating liquor.

#### **Section 14: Underage functions**

A new Article 58A in the Licensing Order permits a court to make an order specifying a certain part of a licensed premises as suitable to hold underage functions when they are satisfied the required conditions have been met. A new Article 58B in the Licensing Order provides for authorisations for specific functions.

This section also makes changes to Article 108 of the Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1985. It is now an offence for gaming machines to be made available in any part of licensed premises in which an underage function is being held.

#### **Section 15: Private functions**

This section amends Article 58 of the Licensing Order which relates to under 18s in licensed premises. Under 18s will be able to remain on licensed premises up to 1.00am, or to attend a private function, provided certain conditions are met.

#### **Section 16: Delivery of intoxicating liquor to young persons**

This section amends Article 60 of the Licensing Order which relates to the sale, etc., of intoxicating liquor to young persons. It makes it an offence for a licensee, or servant or agent, to make a home delivery of intoxicating liquor (purchased by an adult) to any person under 18 years of age. It also provides that in court proceedings, licensees, or servants or agents, may rely on a defence of due diligence by demonstrating that, when delivering the intoxicating liquor, they recorded details of any proof of age document they had requested in the delivery book or on an invoice.

#### **Section 17: Restaurants and guest houses: notice displaying licence conditions**



3.4	<p>This section amends Article 51 of the Licensing Order (conditions as to sale etc. in guest houses and restaurants). It adds a new Article 51(4A) which requires a restaurant, and a guest house which also has a restaurant, to display a notice detailing the conditions in relation to the sale and consumption of intoxicating liquor in the premises.</p> <p><b>Section 22: Occasional licences: conditions</b>  This section allows for the police to appear at a hearing of an application for an occasional licence and ask for terms and conditions to be placed on it.  There is also an opportunity, on request by the holder of the occasional licence, for a magistrates' court to vary or remove any of the terms or conditions if it is satisfied that it is appropriate to do so.</p> <p><b>Section 26: Body Corporate: change of directors</b>  This sections deals with licence holders which are made up of a body corporate.  Article 4 of the Licensing Order (persons to whom licences may be granted) is amended to require a body corporate licence holder to notify the courts and police of any change of directorship within 28 days.  Article 72 of the Licensing Order (suspension of licence) is also amended to allow the suspension of a licence on the grounds that the body corporate is no longer fit to hold a licence, having not informed the courts and police of a change of directorship.</p>
3.5	<p>It is noted that the current 5-year licensing period for Northern Ireland liquor licences ends on 30 September 2022 and Renewal applications must be submitted to the court by 9 August 2022.</p>
	<p>A further report will be brought to a future Committee setting out any potential implications for Council's Entertainment Licencing policy.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p>Financial: Within Current Resources</p> <p>Human: Within Current Resources</p> <p>Risk Management: None</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<p><b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b></p> <p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications: None</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: None</p>

5.0	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	That Members note the content of this report.
6.0	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix 1 – The Licensing and Registration of Clubs Committee report of 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
6.2	Appendix 2 – The Licensing and Regulations of Clubs (Amendment) Act (NI) 2021
6.3	Appendix 3 – Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Act (NI) 2021 DfC Guide, February 2022

Appendix 3 – The Licensing and Regulations of Clubs (Amendment) Act (NI) 2021



# Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2021

## 2021 CHAPTER 7

An Act to make provision about liquor licensing and the registration of clubs. [26th August 2021]

BE IT ENACTED by being passed by the Northern Ireland Assembly and assented to by Her Majesty as follows:

### PART 1

#### LICENSING

##### *Permitted hours*

##### **Removal of additional restrictions at Easter**

- 1.—(1) In Article 30 of the Licensing Order (occasional licences), in paragraph (7), omit “, Easter Day or Good Friday”.
- (2) In Article 42 of that Order (general permitted hours), in paragraph (1)—
  - (a) in sub-paragraph (a), omit “Good Friday or”, and
  - (b) omit sub-paragraph (b) and the following “and”.
- (3) In paragraph (2)(b) of that Article, omit “or Easter Day”.
- (4) In paragraph (3) of that Article, omit “and (b)”.

(5) In Article 44 of the Licensing Order (additional permitted hours), in paragraph (6)(a), omit “Easter Day or Good Friday,”.

(6) In Article 45 of that Order (authorisations for additional permitted hours), in paragraph (3)(a), omit “, Easter Day or Good Friday”.

(7) In Article 47 of that Order (extension licences), in paragraph (6)(a), omit “Easter Day or Good Friday,”.

(8) In Article 50 of that Order (restrictions as to sales for consumption off premises), in paragraph (1), omit “or Easter Day”.

### **Removal of restrictions on late opening for on-sales on Sunday**

2.—(1) In Article 30 of the Licensing Order (occasional licences), in paragraph (1)(c), for paragraphs (ii) and (iii) substitute—

“(ii) on Sundays, between half past 12 in the afternoon and 1 in the morning of the day next following.”.

(2) In Article 42 of the Licensing Order (general permitted hours)—

(a) in paragraph (1), after sub-paragraph (a) and the following “and” insert—

“(aa) on Sundays, other than Christmas Day, from half past 12 in the afternoon to 11 in the evening; and”.

(b) in paragraph (1)(c), for the words from “except” to “Christmas Day” substitute “on Christmas Day,” and

(c) in paragraph (3), for “paragraph (1)(c)” substitute “paragraph (1)(aa) and (c)”.

(3) In Article 42 of the Licensing Order, after paragraph (1) insert—

“(1A) Neither paragraph (1)(aa) nor, in a year when Christmas Day is on a Sunday, paragraph (1)(c) applies in the case of premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(a) with respect to which a direction under Article 7(10) or 15(5)(a) is in force.”.

(4) In Article 44 of the Licensing Order (orders for additional permitted hours), in paragraph (2), for the words from “the hours—” to “shall” substitute “the hours on any day from 11 in the evening to 1 in the morning of the day next following shall”.

(5) In Article 45 of that Order (authorisations for additional permitted hours), in paragraph (1), for the words from “the hours—” to “in addition to” substitute “the hours on any day from 11 in the evening to 1 in the morning of the day next following in addition to”.

(6) In Article 47 of that Order (extension licences), in paragraph (1)(b), for paragraphs (ii) and (iii) substitute—

“(ii) on Sundays, between half past 12 in the afternoon and 1 in the morning of the day next following.”.

### **Public houses and hotels: further additional hours**

3.—(1) After Article 44 of the Licensing Order insert—

#### **“Public houses or hotels: order for further additional permitted hours**

**44A.**—(1) In the case of premises of the kind referred to in Article 5(1)(a) or an hotel, a county court or court of summary jurisdiction may, when making an order under Article 44(1), also make an order under paragraph (3) or (4) of this Article.

(2) In the case of premises of the kind referred to in Article 5(1)(a), or an hotel, to which an order under Article 44 applies, a court of summary jurisdiction may, at any time, upon the application of the holder of the licence for those premises made in compliance with the procedure set out in Schedule 9, make an order under paragraph (3) or (4).

(3) An order under this paragraph may direct that, on each day specified in the order (being a day specified in the order under Article 44), an additional hour beginning immediately after the end of the period authorised by the order under Article 44 is to be included in the permitted hours for the premises to which that order applies for the purposes referred to in paragraph (2) of that Article.

(4) An order under this paragraph may direct that, on each day specified in the order (being a day other than one specified in the order under Article 44), the hours that would be included in the permitted hours if the day were one specified in the order under Article 44 and an additional hour beginning immediately after the end of those hours are to be included in the permitted hours for the premises to which that order applies.

(5) An order under paragraph (4) is subject to a condition that, during the hours authorised by the order, the premises may be used for the sale of intoxicating liquor only if they are also being used for the provision of—

- (a) musical or other entertainment; or
- (b) substantial refreshment; or
- (c) both such entertainment and refreshment.

(6) In paragraph (5), “entertainment” has the same meaning as in Article 44 (see paragraph (8) of that Article).

(7) A court must not make an order under paragraph (3) or (4) unless the court is satisfied that—

- (a) the business will be conducted during the hours mentioned in that paragraph and any period immediately following their termination in such a manner as not to cause undue inconvenience to persons residing in the vicinity of the premises; and



(b) the hours mentioned in that paragraph will not cause undue inconvenience to persons residing in the vicinity of the premises.

(8) The court may, accordingly, make the order subject to such terms and conditions as the court thinks fit for the purpose of avoiding such inconvenience as is mentioned in paragraph (7).

(9) Subject to paragraph (10), where notice of an application under paragraph (2) has been served on the clerk of petty sessions, the clerk may make the order sought as if the application had been made to the clerk and may do so in the absence of the applicant.

(10) Where—

(a) a notice of objection to the application has been served upon the clerk and has not been withdrawn, or

(b) the clerk is of the opinion, for any other reason, that the application should be made to the court,

the clerk must require the application to be made to the court and must notify the applicant and the objector, if any, of the requirement and of the time and place of the hearing.

(11) Paragraphs (6) and (7) of Article 44 apply in relation to an order under paragraph (3) or (4) of this Article as they apply in relation to an order under paragraph (1) of that Article; and for that purpose—

(a) the reference to that Article in the opening words of paragraph (6) of that Article is to be read as including a reference to this Article, and

(b) the references to paragraph (2) of that Article are to be read as references to paragraph (3) or (as the case may be) paragraphs (4) and (5) of this Article.

(12) Not more than 104 days in any year may be specified in an order or orders made under this Article.

(13) Regulations may modify paragraph (12) so as to substitute a different number of days for the number for the time being specified there.

(14) Regulations may not be made under paragraph (13) unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.

#### **Orders under Article 44A: revocation, modification etc.**

**44B.**—(1) An order under Article 44A may be revoked or modified by a court of summary jurisdiction on the application of the holder of the licence.

(2) Where a court of summary jurisdiction is, in the case of premises in relation to which an order under Article 44A has been made, satisfied for the purposes of paragraph (3), the court may act under paragraph (4) in relation to the order.

(3) A court is satisfied for the purposes of this paragraph in the case of premises if, on a complaint made under Part 8 of the Magistrates' Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981, it is satisfied that, on a previous day specified in an order under Article 44A in relation to the premises—

- (a) the business carried on in the premises was conducted during the hours mentioned in paragraph (3) or (4) of Article 44A (as the case may be) or any period immediately following their termination in such a manner as to cause undue inconvenience to persons residing in the vicinity of the premises; or
- (b) such hours caused undue inconvenience to persons residing in the vicinity of the premises; or
- (c) in the case of a complaint made by the district commander for the police district in which the premises are situated, the specified part or parts of the premises were not used for the purposes mentioned in paragraph (3) or (5) of Article 44A (as the case may be).

(4) The court may—

- (a) revoke the order under Article 44A that is referred to in paragraph (2) of this Article; or
- (b) modify the order or, in relation to the order, the hours mentioned in paragraph (3) or (4) of Article 44A (as the case may be); or
- (c) make the continuance of the order subject to such terms and conditions as the court thinks fit.”.

(2) In Schedule 9 to the Licensing Order (procedure for certain applications), after paragraph 2 insert—

“**2A.** A person who intends to make an application under Article 44 or 44A must (in addition to complying with the duty under paragraph 2)—

- (a) not more than 6 weeks nor less than 2 weeks before the time of the court sitting at which the application is to be made, cause notice of the application to be published at least once in 2 newspapers circulating in the vicinity of the premises to which the application relates;
- (b) during the 3 weeks before that time, cause notice of the application to be displayed on or near the premises to which the application relates.”.

(3) In that Schedule—

- (a) in the title, after “44” insert “, 44A”,
- (b) in paragraph 1, after “44” insert “, 44A”, and
- (c) in paragraph 4, after sub-paragraph (b) insert—
  - “(ba) in the case of an application under Article 44A, on any ground mentioned in Article 44A(5) or (7);”.

### **Alignment of closing time for liquor and entertainment**

4. After Article 44B of the Licensing Order (inserted by section 3(1)) insert—

#### **“Alignment of closing time for liquor and entertainment**

**44C.**—(1) This Article applies in relation to any occasion on which an entertainments licence in force in respect of premises to which an order under Article 44 applies would (but for this Article) permit entertainment that was being provided in the premises to continue to be provided in the premises after the end of the hours mentioned in Article 44(2).

(2) The hours mentioned in Article 44(2) do not apply in relation to the premises on that occasion and the hours specified in Article 42 apply instead in relation to the premises on that occasion.

(3) But the entertainments licence continues in force on that occasion and accordingly permits entertainment to be provided in the premises after the end of the hours specified in Article 42.

(4) If an order under Article 44A(3) or (4) applies in relation to the premises, the references in this Article to the hours mentioned in Article 44(2) are to be read as including a reference to the additional hour authorised by that order.

(5) The references in this Article to the hours specified in Article 42 are references to those hours as extended by Article 46.

(6) In this Article—

“entertainment” has the same meaning as in Article 44, and

“entertainments licence” means a licence under paragraph 3 of Schedule 1 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1985.”.

### **Police authorisations for additional hours**

5.—(1) In Article 45 of the Licensing Order (authorisations for additional permitted hours), in paragraph (1)—

- (a) omit “other than premises to which an order under Article 44 applies”,
- (b) before “occasion to which the application relates” insert “first”, and
- (c) in the full-out words at the end, for “on any 1 occasion specified in the authorisation” substitute “on such occasions specified in the authorisation as the commander thinks fit”.

(2) After that paragraph insert—

“(1A) In the case of premises to which an order under Article 44 applies, an authorisation under this Article is subject to a condition that, during

the additional hours authorised, the premises may be used for the sale of intoxicating liquor only if they are also being used for the provision of—

- (a) musical or other entertainment; or
- (b) substantial refreshment; or
- (c) both such entertainment and refreshment.

(1B) In paragraph (1A), “entertainment” has the same meaning as in Article 44 (see paragraph (8) of that Article).”.

(3) For paragraph (2) of that Article substitute—

“(2) In the case of premises to which an order under Article 44 applies, not more than 20 authorisations shall be granted under this Article to the holder of the licence of the premises in any year.

(2A) In the case of premises of any other description, not more than 104 authorisations shall be granted under this Article to the holder of the licence of the premises in any year.

(2B) Regulations may modify paragraph (2) or (2A) so as to substitute a different number of authorisations for the number for the time being specified there.

(2C) Regulations may not be made under paragraph (2B) unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.”.

(4) After paragraph (3) of that Article insert—

“(4) A person who intends to make an application under this Article shall—

- (a) during the 3 weeks before the first occasion to which the application relates, cause notice of the application to be displayed on or near the premises for which the authorisation is to be sought;
- (b) not less than 3 weeks before that time, serve a copy of the notice of the application on the district council for the district in which the premises are situated.

(5) The notice under paragraph (4) must specify the kind of premises to which the application relates and must contain such information as may be prescribed by magistrates’ courts rules.

(6) The following provisions of this Article apply where a complaint is made to a court of summary jurisdiction under Part 8 of the Magistrates’ Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 on the grounds—

- (a) that the business carried on in premises to which an authorisation under this Article applies is being conducted during the hours mentioned in paragraph (1) or any period immediately following

their termination in such a manner as to cause undue inconvenience to persons residing in the vicinity of the premises; or

(b) that such hours are causing undue inconvenience to persons residing in the vicinity of the premises.

(7) Where the court is satisfied that the grounds of the complaint are made out, it may—

(a) revoke the authorisation; or

(b) modify the authorisation or, in relation to the authorisation, the hours mentioned in paragraph (1); or

(c) make the continuance of the authorisation subject to such terms and conditions as the court thinks fit.

(8) The terms and conditions which may be imposed under paragraph (7) include those requested by the district commander of the police district in which the premises are situated.”.

#### **Extension of “drinking-up time”**

6.—(1) In Article 46 of the Licensing Order (exceptions from prohibition of sale etc. of intoxicating liquor outside permitted hours), in paragraph (1), in each of sub-paragraphs (a) and (b), for “30 minutes” substitute “60 minutes”.

(2) After paragraph (3) of that Article insert—

“(4) Regulations may modify paragraph (1)(a) or (b) so as to substitute “30 minutes” for “60 minutes”.

(5) Regulations may not be made under paragraph (4) unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.”.

#### **Major events**

7.—(1) After Article 48 of the Licensing Order (but before the following cross-heading) insert—

*“Major event orders*

#### **Extension of permitted hours for major events**

48A.—(1) Where the Department considers that an event which is to take place in Northern Ireland will attract significant public interest (whether throughout Northern Ireland or in certain areas only), it may make an order (a “major event order”) which—

(a) designates the event as a major event, and



(b) provides that, during the period specified in the order, the permitted hours for any place or premises to which the order applies are the hours specified in the order.

(2) A major event order may apply to—

(a) all licensed premises either in Northern Ireland as a whole or in the area or areas specified;

(b) all licensed premises of a specified kind either in Northern Ireland as a whole or in the area or areas specified;

(c) any place or premises for which an occasional licence has been granted and which is or are situated on the site where the event is to take place.

(3) In specifying an area for the purposes of paragraph (2)(a) or (b), a major event order may in particular do so by reference to the place or premises at which the event is to take place or the area in the vicinity of the place or premises.

(4) The Department may vary or revoke a major event order; and the circumstances in which it may revoke an order include, in a case where the period specified under paragraph (1)(b) includes two or more days, circumstances in which it considers it necessary to do so because of disorder, or expected disorder, at or in the vicinity of the place or premises at which the event is taking place.

(5) The period specified in a major event order may not include Christmas Day.

(6) The hours specified in a major event order are in addition to the hours permitted by any occasional licence, any order under Article 44 or 44A, any authorisation under Article 45 or any extension licence, which applies to a place or premises to which the major event order applies.

(7) If, in the case of premises to which an order under Article 44, 44A or 48 applies, the event designated by a major event order is to take place on a day which is not specified in an order under Article 44 or 44A or an extension licence, the major event order has effect as if that day were so specified.

(8) A major event order may make consequential, incidental or supplementary provision (including provision which modifies provisions of this Order for the purpose of giving effect to the major event order).

(9) Before making a major event order, the Department must consult such persons as it considers appropriate.

### **Major event order: conditions**

**48B.**—(1) A major event order may impose conditions; and it may (without prejudice to the generality of section 17(5)(b)(ii) of the Interpretation

Act (Northern Ireland) 1954) impose conditions which, in particular, vary according to whether they relate to the sale of intoxicating liquor for consumption on, or for consumption off, a place or premises.

(2) A major event order may not authorise at any place or premises, other than the place or premises at which the event is to take place, the sale of intoxicating liquor for consumption off that place or premises.

(3) Accordingly, a major event order may, in so far as it applies to a place or premises for which an occasional licence has been granted, authorise during the period specified under Article 48A(1)(b) the sale of intoxicating liquor for consumption off the place or premises specified in the licence, despite the prohibition in Article 30(5)(b).

(4) Paragraphs (2) and (3) do not apply in the case of a place or premises for which an occasional licence has been granted to the holder of a licence for a restaurant.

(5) A major event order which authorises the sale of intoxicating liquor for consumption in a place or premises also authorises, during the first 60 minutes after the conclusion of the hours specified in the order, the consumption of intoxicating liquor in the place or premises.

(6) A major event order which authorises the sale of intoxicating liquor for consumption off any place or premises also authorises, during the first 60 minutes after the conclusion of the hours specified in the order, the taking of intoxicating liquor in a sealed container from the place or premises.

(7) Regulations under Article 46(4) may also modify paragraph (5) or (6) of this Article so as to substitute “30 minutes” for “60 minutes”.

(8) A major event order, in so far as it applies to premises of any of the kinds mentioned in Article 5(1), does not affect the requirement to comply with the conditions relating to the sale of intoxicating liquor which apply to premises of that kind.

(9) Any person acting in contravention of a condition imposed by a major event order is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.”.

(2) In Part 1 of Schedule 10A to the Licensing Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 3 fine), at the appropriate place insert—

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“48B(9)	Contravening condition of major event order	3-4”
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### **Licensed race tracks: Sunday sales**

8.—(1) In Article 42 of the Licensing Order (permitted hours), in paragraph (3), after “a theatre” insert “or (subject to paragraph (4)) premises on a licensed track”.

(2) After that paragraph insert—

“(4) The permitted hours for premises on a licensed track do not include any time on Christmas Day.

(5) In this Article, “licensed track” has the meaning given in the Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1985.”.

### *Types of licensed premises*

### **Places of public entertainment: inclusion of cinemas**

9.—(1) In Article 2 of the Licensing Order (interpretation), in paragraph 2—

(a) in the definition of “places of public entertainment”, after subparagraph (a) insert—

“(aa) premises used as a cinema;”

(b) at the appropriate place insert—

““cinema” means any place which is used primarily and ordinarily for a film exhibition within the meaning of Article 2 of the Cinemas (Northern Ireland) Order 1991 and the use of which for such exhibitions is licensed under Article 3 of that Order;”.

(2) In Article 42(3) of the Licensing Order (general permitted hours) before “a theatre” insert “a cinema,”.

### *Local alcohol producers*

### **Licence for off-sales**

10.—(1) In Article 5 of the Licensing Order (premises for which licence may be granted), in paragraph (1), after subparagraph (1) insert “;

(m) premises in which the business of producing intoxicating liquor is carried on in accordance with any certificate of registration, licence or other authorisation which is required by a statutory provision.”.

(2) After paragraph (6) of that Article insert—

“(7) Paragraph (1)(m) applies only where the business in question is carried on wholly or mainly in Northern Ireland.”.

(3) After Article 52A of the Licensing Order insert—

**“Local producer’s licence: sales on own premises**

**52B.**—(1) A local producer’s licence shall not authorise—

- (a) the sale of intoxicating liquor unless it is produced in the production premises;
- (b) the sale of intoxicating liquor for consumption in the production premises, except in so far as that is permitted by Articles 52E and 52F.

(2) But a local producer’s licence shall, where one or more persons are being given a tour of the production premises, authorise the provision to each person of a sample of intoxicating liquor produced in the premises for consumption in the premises, so long as no charge is made for providing the sample separate from the charge made for giving the tour.

(3) In paragraph (2), “sample”, in relation to intoxicating liquor, means an amount (whether in one serving or more) which does not exceed the amount prescribed in regulations.

(4) Where the holder of a local producer’s licence, personally or by a servant or agent, sells intoxicating liquor or makes it available for purchase in the production premises in contravention of paragraph (1), the holder is guilty of an offence.

(5) Where the holder of a local producer’s licence, personally or by a servant or agent, provides a person with intoxicating liquor in contravention of paragraph (2), the holder is guilty of an offence.

(6) Where intoxicating liquor is available for purchase in accordance with this Article, the holder of the local producer’s licence shall at all times display in the production premises a notice in the form and manner, and containing the information, prescribed by regulations; and a person acting in contravention of this paragraph is guilty of an offence.

(7) Where, having purchased intoxicating liquor from the holder of a local producer’s licence, a person consumes the liquor—

- (a) in the production premises, or
- (b) in premises which adjoin or are near the production premises and which belong to the holder of the licence or are under the holder’s control or used by the holder’s permission,

that person and the holder of the licence, if the consumption is with the holder’s or a servant’s or agent’s knowledge or consent, are each guilty of an offence.

(8) A person guilty of an offence under paragraph (4) is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 4 on the standard scale or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or to both.

(9) A person guilty of an offence under paragraph (5), (6) or (7) is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

(10) In this Article and Articles 52C to 52F—

“local producer’s licence” means a licence for premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(m), and

“production premises”, in relation to a local producer’s licence, means the premises to which the licence relates.

**Local producer’s licence: sale on other licensed premises**

**52C.**—(1) A local producer’s licence shall authorise the holder of the licence, personally or by a servant or agent, to sell by retail in licensed premises to which this Article applies intoxicating liquor produced in the production premises if the sale—

- (a) is for consumption off those licensed premises, and
- (b) is ancillary to an event which is held wholly or mainly to promote food, drink or craftwork produced in Northern Ireland or relates to agriculture in Northern Ireland.

(2) The licensed premises to which this Article applies are—

- (a) an hotel;
- (b) a conference centre;
- (c) an indoor arena;
- (d) an outdoor stadium;
- (e) a place or premises specified in an occasional licence.

(3) Regulations may modify paragraph (2) so as to add or remove a reference to licensed premises of a specified kind.

(4) Regulations may not be made under paragraph (3) unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.

(5) Where the holder of a local producer’s licence, personally or by a servant or agent, sells intoxicating liquor or makes it available for purchase in contravention of paragraph (1), the holder is guilty of an offence.

(6) Where intoxicating liquor is made available for purchase in accordance with this Article, the holder of the local producer’s licence shall at all times display in the licensed premises to which this Article applies at the point of sale of the intoxicating liquor a notice in the form and manner, and containing the information, prescribed in regulations; and a person acting in contravention of this paragraph is guilty of an offence.

(7) A person guilty of an offence under paragraph (5) is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 4 on the standard scale or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or to both.



(8) A person guilty of an offence under paragraph (6) is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

**Local producer’s licence: sales not on licensed premises**

**52D.**—(1) A local producer’s licence shall authorise the holder of the licence, personally or by a servant or agent, to sell by retail in a place which is not licensed premises intoxicating liquor produced in the production premises if the sale—

- (a) is for consumption away from that place, and
- (b) is ancillary to an event being held at that place, which is open to the public and in relation to which each of the following three conditions is satisfied.

(2) The first condition is that the Department, in response to a request made by the person organising the event, has published a statement that, in its opinion, the event—

- (a) is being held to promote food, drink or craftwork produced in Northern Ireland or relates to agriculture in Northern Ireland, and
- (b) is of importance to the area of Northern Ireland in which it is being held.

(3) The second condition is that a senior local police officer, in response to a request made by the person organising the event, has given the person written approval for intoxicating liquor to be sold at the event for consumption away from the place where the event is being held.

(4) The third condition is that a senior local police officer, in response to a request made by the holder of the local producer’s licence, has given the holder written approval for the sale by the holder, or a servant or agent, of intoxicating liquor at the event in accordance with this Article.

(5) A request under paragraph (2), (3) or (4) must be made in writing at least two weeks before the day (or the first day) on which the event is due to be held.

(6) In considering a request under paragraph (2), the Department must consult such persons as it considers appropriate.

(7) The holder of a local producer’s licence is also authorised to provide any person at the event in question with a sample of the intoxicating liquor for consumption at the event as an inducement to purchase the intoxicating liquor; and for this purpose, “sample” has the same meaning as in Article 52B.

(8) A person who, being the holder of a local producer’s licence, personally or by a servant or agent, sells intoxicating liquor or makes it available for purchase in contravention of paragraph (1), is guilty of an offence.

(9) Where the holder of a local producer’s licence, personally or by a servant or agent, provides a person with intoxicating liquor in contravention of paragraph (7), the holder is guilty of an offence.

(10) Where intoxicating liquor is made available for purchase in accordance with this Article, the holder of the local producer’s licence shall at all times display at the point of sale of the intoxicating liquor a notice in the form and manner, and containing the information, prescribed by regulations; and a person acting in contravention of this paragraph is guilty of an offence.

(11) Where, having purchased intoxicating liquor from the holder of a local producer’s licence, a person consumes the liquor at the place where the event is being held, that person and the holder of the licence, if the consumption is with the holder’s or a servant’s or agent’s knowledge or consent, are each guilty of an offence.

(12) A person guilty of an offence under paragraph (8) is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 4 on the standard scale or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or to both.

(13) A person guilty of an offence under paragraph (9), (10) or (11) is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

(14) In this Article—

“place” includes “premises”, and

“senior local police officer” means a police officer of, or above, the rank of inspector designated for the purpose of giving approvals under this Article by the district commander for the police district in which the place where the event is being held is situated.”.

(4) In Article 2 of the Licensing Order (interpretation), after paragraph (6) insert—

“(6A) In this Order any reference to the production of intoxicating liquor includes a reference to the brewing, fermenting or distilling of intoxicating liquor but does not include a reference merely to the packaging of intoxicating liquor.”.

(5) In Article 42 of that Order (general permitted hours), in each of paragraphs (1) and (2), after “Article 5(1)(b)” insert “or (m)”.

(6) In each of the following provisions of that Order, after “Article 5(1)(b)” insert “or (m)”—

(a) Article 46(1)(a)(ii) (exception for sales outside permitted hours),

(b) Article 56(1) (penalty for permitting consumption in unlicensed part of premises), and

(c) Article 58(1)(b) (prohibition on young persons).

(7) In Part 1 of Schedule 1 to that Order (application for grant of licence), after paragraph 3 insert—

“**3A.** In the case of an application for the grant of a licence for premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(m), the notice mentioned in paragraph 1(c) must be accompanied by a copy of any certificate of registration, licence or other authorisation which is required by a statutory provision for the production of intoxicating liquor in the premises.”.

(8) In Part 1 of Schedule 4 to that Order (application for renewal of licence), after paragraph 4 insert—

“**4A.** In the case of an application for the renewal of a licence for premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(m), the notice mentioned in paragraph 3 must be accompanied by a copy of any certificate of registration, licence or other authorisation which is required by a statutory provision for the production of intoxicating liquor in the premises.”.

(9) In Part 1 of Schedule 10A to that Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 3 fine), at the appropriate place insert—

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“52B(9)	Provision of sample in contravention of local producer’s licence. Failure by local producer to display notice on own premises. Consumption on premises of intoxicating liquor purchased there	3-4
52C(8)	Failure by local producer to display notice at point of sale on other licensed premises.	3-4
52D(13)	Provision of sample in contravention of local producer’s licence.  Failure by local producer to display notice at point of sale at unlicensed place.  Consumption of intoxicating liquor at unlicensed place”	3-4

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(10) In Part 2 of Schedule 10A to that Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 4 fine), at the appropriate place insert—

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“52B(8)	Failure by local producer to comply with licence on own premises	4-5
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52C(7)	Failure by local producer to comply with licence on other licensed premises	4-5
52D(12)	Failure by local producer to comply with licence at unlicensed place	4-5”

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### **Sales and consumption of intoxicating liquor in local producer’s premises**

**11.**—(1) After Article 52D of the Licensing Order (inserted by section 10(3)) insert—

#### **“Local producer’s premises: suitability for on-sales**

**52E.**—(1) In respect of premises which are of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(m) and part of which is structurally adapted, and used or intended to be used, for the purpose of providing persons frequenting the premises with intoxicating liquor produced in the premises for consumption in the premises—

- (a) a county court which grants a local producer’s licence or declares a local producer’s licence provisionally granted to be final, on the application of the person applying for the grant or declaration, or
- (b) a court of summary jurisdiction, at any time, on the application of the holder of the local producer’s licence made in compliance with the procedure set out in Schedule 9,

may, by order, specify any part of the premises as being suitable for the sale of intoxicating liquor produced in the premises for consumption in the premises during the hours specified in Article 42(6).

(2) A court shall not make an order under paragraph (1) unless it is satisfied that the part of the premises specified in the order is suitable for the sale of intoxicating liquor produced in the premises for consumption in the premises.

(3) An order under paragraph (1) may be revoked by a court of summary jurisdiction—

- (a) on the application of the holder of the licence; or
- (b) where, on complaint made under Part 8 of the Magistrates’ Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981, the court is not satisfied that the requirements of paragraph (2) have continued to be complied with.

#### **Local producer’s premises: authorisation for on-sales**

**52F.**—(1) In the case of premises of a kind specified in Article 5(1)(m) in respect of which an application has been made for an order under Article

52E, the court hearing the application may, if it makes the order, also grant an authorisation under this Article on an application made in compliance with the procedure set out in Schedule 10.

(2) In the case of premises of that kind in respect of which an order under Article 52E has effect, a court of summary jurisdiction may, on an application made in compliance with the procedure set out in Schedule 10, grant an authorisation under this Article.

(3) An authorisation under this Article may authorise the holder of the local producer's licence, on the day and during the hours specified in the authorisation, to sell in the part of the premises to which the order under Article 52E applies intoxicating liquor produced in the production premises for consumption in that part of the premises.

(4) Not more than 104 authorisations shall be granted under this Article to the holder of a local producer's licence in any year.

(5) Regulations may modify paragraph (4) so as to substitute a different number of authorisations for the time being specified there.

(6) Regulations may not be made under paragraph (5) unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.

(7) Nothing in this Article permits an authorisation under this Article to authorise the sale of intoxicating liquor on Christmas Day.

(8) Where the holder of a local producer's licence, personally or by a servant or agent, sells intoxicating liquor or makes it available for purchase in contravention of an authorisation under this Article, the holder is guilty of an offence.

(9) Where intoxicating liquor is made available for purchase in accordance with an authorisation under this Article, the holder of the local producer's licence shall at all times display in the part of the premises to which the order under Article 52E applies a notice in the form and manner, and containing the information, prescribed in regulations; and a person acting in contravention of this paragraph is guilty of an offence.

(10) A person guilty of an offence under paragraph (8) is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 4 on the standard scale.

(11) A person guilty of an offence under paragraph (9) is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.”.

(2) In Article 30 of the Licensing Order (occasional licences), after paragraph (1) insert—

“(1A) An occasional licence may not be granted for any part of premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(m) to which an order under Article 52E applies.”.

(3) In Article 42 of the Licensing Order (general permitted hours), in each of paragraphs (1) and (2), after “or (m)” (inserted by section 10(5)) insert “(subject to paragraph (6))”.

(4) In that Article after paragraph (5) (inserted by section 8(2)) insert—

“(6) In the case of premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(m) to which an order under Article 52E applies, the permitted hours for a part of the premises specified in the order on a day on which an authorisation under Article 52F has effect are the hours on that day from 4 in the afternoon to 10 in the evening.”.

(5) In Article 46 of the Licensing Order (exception for sales outside permitted hours), in paragraph (1)(a)(ii), after “or (m)” (inserted by section 10(6)(a)) insert “(but see paragraph (1A))”.

(6) In that Article, after paragraph (1) insert—

“(1A) The reference in paragraph (1)(a)(ii) to premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(m) does not include a reference to premises of that kind with respect to which an order under Article 52E is in force.”.

(7) In Article 56 of the Licensing Order (penalty for permitting consumption of intoxicating liquor in unlicensed part of premises), after paragraph (1) insert—

“(1A) The exception in paragraph (1) for premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(m) does not apply to premises of that kind to which an order under Article 52E applies during the period for which an authorisation under Article 52F has effect.”.

(8) In Article 58 of the Licensing Order (young persons prohibited from certain premises), in paragraph (5), before “if” insert “, or who is in licensed premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(m) to which an order under Article 52E applies at a time when an authorisation under Article 52F has effect,”.

(9) In Schedule 9 to the Licensing Order (procedure on certain applications)

—  
(a) in the title, after “48” insert “, 52E”,

(b) in paragraph 1, after “48” insert “, 52E”, and

(c) in paragraph 4, after paragraph (c) insert—

“(ca) in the case of an application under Article 52E, on the ground mentioned in Article 52E(2);”.

(10) In Schedule 10 to the Licensing Order (applications for extension licences)—

(a) after paragraph 1 insert—

“1A. In this Schedule authorisation” means an authorisation under Article 52F.”,

(b) in paragraph 2, after “the grant of a licence” insert “or authorisation”, and

(c) in paragraph 4, after “the granting of the licence” insert “or authorisation”.

(11) In Part 1 of Schedule 10A to the Licensing Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 3 fine), at the appropriate place insert—

“52F(11)	Failure by local producer to display notice on part of premises to which authorisation under Article 52F applies	3-4”
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(12) In Part 2 of Schedule 10A to the Licensing Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 4 fine), at the appropriate place insert—

“52F(10)	Failure by local producer to comply with authorisation under Article 52F	4-5”
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### *Remote sales*

#### **Requirement for off-licence**

**12.—(1)** After Article 5 of the Licensing Order insert—

#### **“Remote sales: requirement for off-licence**

**5A.** Where a sale of intoxicating liquor by retail is made otherwise than in person and the premises from which the intoxicating liquor is despatched are in Northern Ireland, the sale is not authorised for the purposes of this Order unless—

- (a) the premises are licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquor for consumption off the premises, and
- (b) the person making the sale, personally or by a servant or agent, is the person who holds that licence.”.

(2) In Article 66 of the Licensing Order (conditions as to delivery of intoxicating liquor), after paragraph (1) insert—

“(1A) Where, in the case of a sale of the kind mentioned in Article 5A, the person who is to deliver the intoxicating liquor to the purchaser is not a servant or agent of the holder of the licence for the premises from which the intoxicating liquor is despatched, that person must—

- (a) secure that the delivery is made without unreasonable delay, and

(b) when making the delivery, be carrying a receipt from the holder of the licence, or a servant or agent, for the purchase of the intoxicating liquor.”.

(3) In paragraph (2) of that Article, after “paragraph (1)” insert “or (1A)”.

(4) In paragraph (3) of that Article, for “this Article” substitute “paragraph (1)”.

#### *Young people in licensed premises*

#### **Removal of requirement for children’s certificate, etc.**

**13.—**(1) Article 59 of the Licensing Order (children’s certificates) is repealed.

(2) In Article 58 of that Order (prohibition of young persons from certain premises), in paragraph (5)—

(a) after “is in a part of licensed premises” insert “mentioned in paragraph (1) (c)”,

(b) omit sub-paragraph (b) and the following “and”,

(c) after sub-paragraph (c) (but before the following “and”) insert “and

(ca) the person under the age of 18 is in the premises at a time when meals, and beverages suitable for persons under that age (including drinking water), are also available for consumption on the premises;”, and

(d) in sub-paragraph (d), for “the certificate is operational” substitute “the person under the age of 18 is not in the premises in the evening at any time after 9”.

(3) In paragraph (6) of that Article—

(a) in sub-paragraph (a), for “before the certificate ceased to be operational” substitute “before 9 in the evening”, and

(b) for sub-paragraph (b) substitute—

“(b) the person under the age of 18 is not in the premises in the evening at any time after half past 9.”.

(4) Omit paragraphs (7), (8) and (9) of that Article.

(5) In paragraph (10) of that Article—

(a) for “, (3), (7), (8) or (9)” substitute “or (3)”,

(b) in sub-paragraph (a), omit “or (7)”, and

(c) in sub-paragraph (b), for “, (3), (8) or (9)” substitute “or (3)”.

(6) In paragraph (11) of that Article, omit “or (8)”.



(7) In Article 60B of the Licensing Order (duty to display notice relating to age), in paragraph (3)(a), after “intoxicating liquor” insert “or in relation to offences concerning the presence of such persons in licensed premises”.

### **Underage functions**

**14.—**(1) After Article 58 of the Licensing Order insert—

#### **“Suitability of certain premises for underage functions**

**58A.—**(1) In respect of premises to which this Article applies—

- (a) a county court which grants a licence or declares a licence provisionally granted to be final, on the application of the person applying for the grant or declaration, or
- (b) a court of summary jurisdiction, at any time, upon the application of the holder of the licence for those premises made in compliance with the procedure set out in Schedule 9,

may, by order, specify any part of the premises as being suitable for underage functions.

(2) In this Article and Article 58B, “underage function” means a function which is designed to appeal to persons under the age of 18 in particular.

(3) A court must not make an order under paragraph (1) unless it is satisfied—

- (a) that the part of the premises specified in the order is structurally adapted for the purpose of having functions held in it;
- (b) that appropriate steps have been taken for securing the safety of persons under the age of 18 while attending an underage function in that part of the premises and that it is otherwise suitable for underage functions;
- (c) that suitable arrangements are in place for securing that persons under the age of 18 attending the function do not have access to any other part of the premises which is used for the sale of intoxicating liquor.

(4) An order under paragraph (1) may be revoked by a court of summary jurisdiction—

- (a) on the application of the holder of the licence; or
- (b) where, on complaint made under Part 8 of the Magistrates’ Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981, the court is not satisfied that the requirements of paragraph (3) have continued to be complied with.

(5) The premises to which this Article applies are—

- (a) any part of premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(a) which is structurally adapted, and used or intended to be used, for the purpose

of providing persons frequenting the premises with a main table meal at midday or in the evening, or both;

- (b) an hotel;
- (c) a restaurant;
- (d) a conference centre;
- (e) a higher education institution;
- (f) an indoor arena;
- (g) an outdoor stadium.

### **Authorisations for underage functions**

**58B.**—(1) A court of summary jurisdiction, or a clerk of petty sessions acting under paragraph (3), may, on an application made in compliance with the procedure set out in Schedule 10 by the holder of a licence for premises which are or include premises for which an order under Article 58A is in force, grant an authorisation under this Article.

(2) An authorisation under this Article may authorise the holder of the licence to hold an underage function—

- (a) in such part of the premises for which the order is in force as is specified in the authorisation, and
- (b) on the day so specified during such hours as are so specified ending no later than 1 in the morning of the next day.

(3) Subject to paragraph (4), where notice of an application for an authorisation under this Article has been served upon the clerk of petty sessions, the clerk may grant the authorisation as if the application had been made to the clerk and may do so in the absence of the applicant.

(4) Where—

- (a) a notice of objection has been served upon the clerk and has not been withdrawn, or
- (b) the clerk is of the opinion, for any other reason, that an application for an authorisation under this Article should be made to the court,

the clerk must require the application to be made to the court and must notify the applicant and the objector, if any, of the requirement and of the time and place of the hearing.

(5) It is a condition of an authorisation under this Article that, during the period for which the authorisation is in force—

- (a) each dispenser of intoxicating liquor in the part of the premises for which the authorisation is in force must be incapable of operation, and

(b) access to any other container of intoxicating liquor in that part must be prevented.

(6) A court of summary jurisdiction which grants an authorisation under this Article may attach to the authorisation such other conditions as the court thinks fit.

(7) In the case of an indoor arena, the references in paragraph (5) to the part of the premises for which the authorisation is in force are to be read as including a reference to any entrance to that part.

(8) If a condition attached to the authorisation is contravened, the holder of the licence is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

(9) The holder of a licence, personally or by a servant or agent, or such a servant or agent, must not, during the period for which an authorisation under this Article is in force—

(a) sell intoxicating liquor to, or make it available for purchase by, a person aged 18 or over in the part of the premises for which the authorisation is in force;

(b) permit a person aged 18 or over to consume intoxicating liquor in the part of the premises for which the authorisation is in force.

(10) A person who contravenes paragraph (9) is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

(11) A person aged 18 or over who consumes intoxicating liquor in a part of premises for which an authorisation under this Article is in force is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.”.

(2) In Article 58 of the Licensing Order (prohibition of young persons from certain premises), in paragraph (13), after sub-paragraph (g) insert “; or

(h) in a part of the licensed premises for which an order under Article 58A is in force during a period for which an authorisation under Article 58B is in force or during the first 30 minutes after the authorisation has ceased to be in force.”.

(3) In Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Licensing Order (application for grant of licence), in paragraph 7, for “or 48” substitute “, 48 or 58A”.

(4) In Schedule 9 to the Licensing Order (applications to court)—

(a) in the title, after “52E” (inserted by section 11(9)(a)) insert “or 58A”,

(b) in paragraph 1, after “52E” (inserted by section 11(9)(b)) insert “or 58A”,  
and

(c) in paragraph 4, after paragraph (ca) (inserted by section 11(9)(c)) insert—

“(cb) in the case of an application under Article 58A, on any ground mentioned in Article 58A(3);”.

(5) In Schedule 10 to the Licensing Order (applications for extensions and authorisations), in paragraph 1A (inserted by section 11(10)(a)), after “52F” insert “or 58B”.

(6) In Part 1 of Schedule 10A to the Licensing Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 3 fine), at the appropriate place insert—

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“58B(8) or (10)	Contravening conditions attached to authorisation for underage function; selling etc intoxicating liquor to, or permitting consumption of it by, person aged 18 or over during underage function	3-4”
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(7) In Article 108 of the Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 (use of gaming machines on premises), after paragraph (4) insert—

“(4ZA) Gaming machines shall not be made available in any part of licensed premises within the meaning of the Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 in which an authorisation under Article 58B of that Order (underage functions) is in force during the period for which it is in force.”.

### Private functions

**15.—**(1) In Article 58 of the Licensing Order (young persons prohibited from certain premises), after paragraph (4) insert—

“(4A) Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply with respect to a person under the age of 18 who is in a part of licensed premises in the evening at any time after half past 9 if—

- (a) a private function is being held in that part of the premises (and, accordingly, the public do not have access to that part of the premises while the function is being held);
- (b) the person under 18 is attending the function in the company either of a parent of that person or of a parent of another person who is under 18 and attending the function;
- (c) a meal consisting of at least a main course is being served at the function; and
- (d) the person under 18 does not consume any part of the meal at a counter or structure which is being used wholly or mainly as a bar.”.

(2) In Article 2 of the Licensing Order (interpretation), in paragraph (2), at the appropriate place insert—

““parent”, in relation to a person under the age of 18, includes any individual who—

- (a) has parental responsibility for that person (within the meaning of the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995), or
- (b) has care of that person.”.

### **Delivery of intoxicating liquor to young persons**

**16.—**(1) In Article 60 of the Licensing Order (sale, etc., of intoxicating liquor to young persons), in paragraph (1), for “Subject to paragraph (5), the” substitute “The”.

(2) In paragraph (5) of that Article—

- (a) for “Paragraphs (1) and (4)” substitute “Paragraph (4)”, and
- (b) omit sub-paragraph (a).

(3) In paragraph (7A) of that Article, in sub-paragraph (a)—

- (a) after “the holder of the licence or his servant or agent” insert “—  
(i)”,  
and
- (b) after “paragraph (7B);” insert “and  
(ii) entered in the delivery book or invoice that the holder, servant or agent was carrying as mentioned in Article 66(1)(a)(ii) the description of the document that was shown;”.

(4) At the end of that Article insert—

“(9) Articles 67(9) and 68(5) do not apply to a delivery of intoxicating liquor to a person under the age of 18 in contravention of this Article.”.

### *Conduct of licensed premises*

#### **Restaurants and guest houses: notice displaying licence conditions**

**17.—**(1) In Article 51 of the Licensing Order (conditions as to sale etc. in guest houses and restaurants), after paragraph (4) insert—

“(4A) Where a restaurant is licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquor, the holder of the licence must at all times display the notice specified in paragraph (4B)—

- (a) at each part of the restaurant mentioned in paragraph (4)(a)(ii); and
- (b) in a position where it is readily visible to any person seeking to purchase intoxicating liquor.

- (4B) The notice referred to in paragraph (4A) must—
- (a) contain such information in relation to the conditions mentioned in paragraph (3) as is prescribed in regulations, and
  - (b) be in such form and of such dimensions as are so prescribed.”.
- (2) In paragraph (2) of that Article, at the end insert “; and paragraph (4A) shall apply in relation to the restaurant.”
- (3) After paragraph (5) of that Article insert—
- “(6) A holder of a licence acting in contravention of paragraph (4A) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.”.
- (4) In Part 1 of Schedule 10A to the Licensing Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 3 fine), at the appropriate place insert—

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“51(6)	Failure to display notice relating to licence conditions.	3-4”
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### Prohibition on self-service and sales by vending machines

- 18.—(1) After Article 54 of the Licensing Order insert—

*“Self-service and vending machines*

### Prohibition on self-service and sales by vending machines

54A.—(1) In any licensed premises, intoxicating liquor must not be sold or made available for purchase for consumption in or off the premises in a form which would enable a person to whom it was sold (or a person that person is with) to operate the dispenser of the liquor.

(2) In any licensed premises, intoxicating liquor must not be sold or made available for purchase for consumption in or off the premises by means of a vending machine.

(3) The activities prohibited by this Article include making available in a public or common part of the premises concerned intoxicating liquor for consumption in or off the premises which, in the absence of the licence holder or a servant or agent, persons are trusted by the licence holder—

- (a) to pay for by placing money in a container, or by some other process, which the licence holder has provided for that purpose in a public or common part of the premises, or
- (b) to agree to pay for by recording by a process which the licence holder has provided for that purpose in a public or common part of the premises the intoxicating liquor appropriated.

(4) Regulations may provide that, where prescribed conditions are satisfied, paragraph (2) does not apply in the case of—

- (a) licensed premises within Article 5(1)(a) which provide accommodation for guests such as is mentioned in Article 46(3);
- (b) licensed premises within Article 5(1)(c);
- (c) licensed premises within Article 5(1)(d).

(5) A holder of a licence acting in contravention of paragraph (1) or (2) is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.”.

(2) In Part 1 of Schedule 10A to the Licensing Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 3 fine), at the appropriate place insert—

“54A(5)	Selling intoxicating liquor in a form which enables self-service or by means of vending machine	3-4”
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#### **Restrictions on off-sales drinks promotions in supermarkets etc.**

19.—(1) After Article 57 of the Licensing Order insert—

##### **“Restrictions on off-sales drinks promotions in supermarkets etc.**

**57ZA.**—(1) In the case of licensed premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(b) (other than premises the whole of which may be used for the sale of intoxicating liquor), the holder of the licence, personally or by a servant or agent, or such a servant or agent, must not carry on an off-sales drinks promotion relating to those licensed premises on any part of the premises of which the licensed premises form part other than a part in which intoxicating liquor is made available for purchase.

(2) In the case of licensed premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(b), the holder of the licence, personally or by a servant or agent, or such a servant or agent, must not carry on an off-sales drinks promotion relating to those licensed premises—

- (a) anywhere in the vicinity of the premises of which the licensed premises form the whole or part, or
- (b) anywhere in the vicinity of any other premises of which licensed premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(b) form the whole or part.

(3) In paragraph (2), the reference to the vicinity of premises is to the area that extends 200 metres from the boundary of the premises.

(4) Regulations may modify paragraph (3) so as to substitute a different distance for the distance for the time being specified there.

(5) A person acting in contravention of paragraph (1) or (2) is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

(6) In this Article, “off-sales drinks promotion”, in relation to licensed premises, means an activity which promotes, or seeks to promote, in relation to those premises specifically the purchase on the premises of intoxicating liquor for consumption off the premises.

(7) A reference in this Article to carrying on an off-sales drinks promotion in relation to licensed premises—

- (a) includes a reference to displaying or making available a publication which relates wholly or mainly to promoting the purchase on those premises of intoxicating liquor for consumption off the premises;
- (b) does not include a reference to carrying on an activity which promotes, or seeks to promote, the purchase of intoxicating liquor as part of a combination of products designed to constitute a meal;
- (c) does not include a reference to the provision of a scheme of the kind referred to in Article 57ZB.

(8) Regulations may not be made under paragraph (4) unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.”.

(2) In Part 1 of Schedule 10A to the Licensing Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 3 fine), at the appropriate place insert—

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“57ZA(5)	Breaching restrictions on	3-4”
	drinks promotions	

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### Prohibition of loyalty schemes

20.—(1) After Article 57ZA of the Licensing Order (inserted by section 19(1)) insert—

#### “Prohibition of loyalty schemes

57ZB.—(1) The holder of a licence for premises of any kind mentioned in Article 5(1) must not operate a scheme which—

- (a) provides awards to a member of the scheme in consequence of the purchase by the member of intoxicating liquor in the premises, and
- (b) entitles the member to redeem the awards, in the amount specified in the scheme, in exchange for the opportunity to purchase intoxicating liquor at a reduced price or to receive it free of charge.



(2) A person acting in contravention of paragraph (1) is guilty of an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.”.

(2) In Part 3 of Schedule 10A to the Licensing Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 5 fine) insert at the appropriate place—

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“57ZB(2)	Operating a loyalty scheme	5-6”
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### **Minimum price for alcohol**

**21.**—(1) The Department of Health must, before the third anniversary of the whole of this Act coming into operation—

- (a) bring forward to the Assembly legislation to set a minimum price for the sale or supply of intoxicating liquor in Northern Ireland and to prohibit its sale or supply in Northern Ireland below that price, or
- (b) if it is not reasonably practicable for the Department to comply with paragraph (a), make a statement to the Assembly on why it is not reasonably practicable to do so.

(2) In this section, “intoxicating liquor” has the same meaning as in the Licensing Order.

### **Occasional licences: conditions**

**22.**—(1) In Schedule 7 to the Licensing Order (application for occasional licence), after paragraph 4 insert—

“**4A.** The district commander mentioned in paragraph 2(a) may appear at the hearing of the application to request that the licence be granted subject to the terms and conditions specified by the district commander.”.

(2) In Article 30 of the Licensing Order (occasional licence), in paragraph (1), after sub-paragraph (c) insert “, and

- (d) if a request has been made under paragraph 4A of Schedule 7, subject to such terms and conditions,”.

(3) In that Article, after paragraph (4) insert—

“(4A) In the case of an occasional licence which is subject to terms and conditions imposed under paragraph (1)(d), a court of summary jurisdiction may, if it is satisfied on an application by the holder of the licence that it is appropriate to do so, vary or remove any of those terms or conditions.

(4B) Schedule 7 applies in relation to an application under paragraph (4A) as it applies in relation to an application for the grant of an occasional licence.”.

(4) In that Article, after paragraph (8) insert—

“(8A) Where an occasional licence has been granted subject to terms and conditions under paragraph (1)(d) and any of those terms or conditions is not observed, the holder of the licence shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.”.

(5) In Part 1 of Schedule 10A to the Licensing Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 3 fine) insert at the appropriate place—

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“30(8A)	Failure to observe term or condition of occasional licence	3-4”
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*Miscellaneous*

**Independent review of licensing system including surrender principle**

**23.**—(1) The Department for Communities must, before the first anniversary of this Act receiving Royal Assent, appoint an independent person (“the reviewer”) to conduct a review of the system in Northern Ireland for authorising the sale by retail of intoxicating liquor (“the licensing system”).

(2) The review must include the following—

- (a) an assessment of the operation of the surrender principle, an examination of options for reforming it and an assessment of the implications of those options for licence holders;
- (b) an analysis of the geographical distribution of licensed premises in Northern Ireland;
- (c) an analysis of the economic and social impact of the licensing system and the impact of the licensing system on personal and public health;
- (d) an assessment of the extent to which the licensing system meets consumer demand and local community needs, when set alongside the impact it has on personal and public health and on public order;
- (e) whatever recommendations for improving the licensing system that the reviewer considers appropriate.

(3) The reviewer must complete the review within two years of the appointment being made.

(4) The reviewer, having completed the review, must provide a report to the Department; and the Department, having received the report, must—

- (a) lay the report before the Assembly, and
- (b) arrange for it to be published.

(5) The Department must, within six months of the publication of the report, publish a plan setting out how it proposes to respond to the report.

(6) The Minister for Communities must, within six months of the publication of the report, make an oral statement to the Assembly about the plan published under subsection (5).

(7) The Department for Communities may by regulations modify subsection (3), or modify subsection (6), so as to substitute a different period for the period for the time being specified there.

(8) Regulations may not be made under subsection (7) unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.

(9) In this section—

- (a) the reference to an independent person includes a reference to a group of independent persons, an independent organisation or a group of independent organisations,
- (b) the references to intoxicating liquor, licences and licensed premises are to be construed in accordance with the Licensing Order, and
- (c) the reference to the surrender principle is a reference to the part of the procedure for granting a licence that is provided for in Article 7(4)(e) of the Licensing Order.

#### **Annual publication of the number of licences**

**24.—**(1) The Department for Communities must, as soon as reasonably practicable after the beginning of each year, publish a statement of each of the following as at 31st December in the previous year—

- (a) the number of licences in force for premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(a) of the Licensing Order;
- (b) the number of licences in force for premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(b) of the Licensing Order;
- (c) the number of premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(a) of the Licensing Order in each district electoral area or, if the Department considers that it is feasible to reckon the number of such premises by reference to smaller areas, in each of those areas;
- (d) the trends which may be observed from the numbers referred to in paragraphs (a) to (c).

(2) In subsection (1), “licences” and “premises” each have the same meaning as in the Licensing Order.

## **Code of practice**

**25.—**(1) At the beginning of Part 6 of the Licensing Order (miscellaneous) insert—

*“Code of practice*

### **Code of practice**

**76F.—**(1) Where a person or group of persons which the Department considers to have a relevant interest produces a relevant code of practice, the Department may approve the code.

(2) A person or group has a “relevant interest” if the person or group—

- (a) is representative of persons whose business involves the sale of intoxicating liquor under a licence, or
- (b) is representative of persons whose business involves the production of intoxicating liquor, or
- (c) is representative of persons whose business involves dealing wholesale in intoxicating liquor, or
- (d) is engaged in research into, or otherwise has an interest in, the effects of the consumption of intoxicating liquor on personal or public health or on public order.

(3) A code of practice is relevant if it relates to—

- (a) the display or sale of intoxicating liquor in licensed premises, or
- (b) activities designed to promote the sale of intoxicating liquor in licensed premises whether for consumption in or off such premises.

(4) Where the Department approves a relevant code of practice, it must give notice of its approval in the Belfast Gazette.

(5) Before deciding whether to approve a relevant code of practice, the Department must consult the Police Service of Northern Ireland.

(6) Where a person or group of the kind referred to in paragraph (1) amends a relevant code of practice, the Department may approve the amendments; and paragraphs (4) and (5) apply in relation to approving an amendment as they apply in relation to approving a code, unless the Department does not consider the amendment significant enough for those paragraphs to apply.

(7) The Department may withdraw its approval of a relevant code or of an amendment to it; and paragraphs (4) and (5) apply in relation to withdrawing approval of a code or amendment as they apply in relation to approving it.”.

(2) In Article 7(4) of the Licensing Order (grant of licence: matters of which court must be satisfied), after sub-paragraph (b) (but before the following “and”) insert “and

(ba) that the applicant is aware of the responsibilities under any code of practice which the Department has approved under Article 76F (and from which it has not withdrawn its approval);”.

(3) In Article 14(4) of the Licensing Order (renewal of licence by clerk of petty sessions: grounds for clerk to refer to court), after sub-paragraph (f) (but before the following “or”) insert “or

(fa) the clerk is not satisfied that the applicant has been complying with any code of practice which the Department has approved under Article 76F (and from which it has not withdrawn its approval);”.

(4) In Article 15(2) of the Licensing Order (renewal of licence by court: matters of which court must be satisfied), after sub-paragraph (b) (but before the following “and”) insert “and

(ba) that the applicant is aware of the responsibilities under, and has been complying with, any code of practice which the Department has approved under Article 76F (and from which it has not withdrawn its approval);”.

(5) In Article 22(6) of the Licensing Order (transfer of licences: matters of which the court must be satisfied), after sub-paragraph (b) (but before the following “and”) insert “and

(ba) that the applicant is aware of the responsibilities under any code of practice which the Department has approved under Article 76F (and from which it has not withdrawn its approval);”.

### **Body corporate: change of directors**

**26.—**(1) In Article 4 of the Licensing Order (persons to whom licences may be granted), at the end insert—

“(5) Where a person becomes or ceases to be a director of a body corporate which is the holder of a licence, the body must, within the period of 28 days of that change taking effect, serve notice of the change upon—

(a) the chief clerk; and

(b) the district commander of the police district in which any premises to which the licence applies are situated.

(6) A person who contravenes paragraph (5) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.”.

(2) In Article 72 of the Licensing Order (suspension of licence), after paragraph (1) insert—

“(1A) The grounds specified in Article 15(2)(b) (fitness to hold licence) include the grounds that, following a person becoming or ceasing to be a director of a body corporate which is the holder of the licence in question, the body is no longer fit to hold the licence.”.

(3) In Part 3 of Schedule 10A to the Licensing Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 5 fine), insert at the appropriate place—

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“4(6)	Failure to notify courts and police of change of directorships	5-6”
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### Removal of exemption for angostura bitters

27. In Article 2(2) of the Licensing Order (interpretation), in the definition of “intoxicating liquor”—

- (a) omit sub-paragraph (a) (which excludes angostura bitters from that definition), and
- (b) in the full-out words beneath sub-paragraph (e), omit “(a),”.

## PART 2

### REGISTRATION OF CLUBS

#### *Extension of premises*

#### **Sporting clubs**

28.—(1) In Part 1 of the Registration of Clubs Order (registration of clubs), after Article 15 insert—

#### *“Extension authorisations*

#### **Extension authorisations for sporting clubs**

15A.—(1) On the application of the secretary of a sporting club, the district commander for the police district in which the premises of the club are situated may, in writing, authorise the extension of the area of the premises in respect of which the club is registered.

(2) An authorisation under this Article authorises the club to hold a function at which intoxicating liquor may be supplied in the area of the premises to which the authorisation applies to members of the club, and guests of members of the club, who are present at the function (with Article 30 applying in relation to the function accordingly).

(3) An authorisation under this Article authorises the supply of intoxicating liquor during the permitted hours on the day or days specified in the authorisation; but the number of days so specified—

- (a) may exceed one only if the district commander is satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances which justify granting an authorisation for more than one day; and
- (b) in a case where the district commander is so satisfied, must not exceed 5.

(4) A district commander may refuse an application for the grant of an authorisation under this Article only if the district commander is satisfied that the function is likely to attract people in such numbers that it would not be practicable to accommodate them in the premises in respect of which the club is registered.

(5) An application for an authorisation under this Article must be accompanied by a plan showing the area of the proposed extension.

(6) Not more than 6 authorisations may be granted under this Article to any club in any year.

(7) Regulations may modify paragraph (6) so as to substitute a different number of authorisations for the number for the time being specified there.

(8) In the case of a sporting club in respect of which an authorisation under this Article has effect, a reference in this Order to the premises of the club includes, in relation to any time at which the authorisation has effect, a reference to the area to which the authorisation applies.

(9) Regulations may not be made under paragraph (7) unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.”.

(2) In Article 2 of the Registration of Clubs Order (interpretation), in paragraph (2), in the definition of “sporting club”, at the end insert “and, in the case of a sporting club in respect of which an authorisation under Article 15A has effect, a reference to the premises of the club is to be construed in accordance with paragraph (8) of that Article”.

(3) In Article 3 of the Registration of Clubs Order (restriction on supply etc. of intoxicating liquor on club premises), at the end of paragraph (1) insert “or unless the supply or consumption is authorised in accordance with Article 15A”.

#### *Alterations to premises*

#### **Consent required for alterations to premises**

**29.—**(1) After Article 12 of the Registration of Clubs Order insert—

*“Alterations to club premises*

**Consent required for certain alterations to premises**

**12A.**—(1) An alteration shall not, subject to paragraph (2), be made to the premises of a registered club if the alteration—

- (a) gives increased facilities for drinking in any part of the premises which contains a bar; or
- (b) adds to any part of the premises which contains a bar or substitutes one such part of the premises for another; or
- (c) conceals from observation a part of the premises in which intoxicating liquor is supplied; or
- (d) affects the means of passage between a part of the premises which contains a bar and the remainder of the premises or any road or other public place.

(2) An alteration such as is mentioned in paragraph (1) may be made if—

- (a) an application under this Article has been made by the secretary of the club to a county court and the court has made an order consenting to the alteration; or
- (b) the alteration is required by order of some lawful authority and, before the alteration is made, notice of the requirement is served by the secretary of the club on the clerk of petty sessions.

(3) The procedure for applications under paragraph (2)(a) is set out in Part 1 of Schedule 4A, and Part 2 of that Schedule has effect in relation to notices under paragraph (2)(b).

(4) If an alteration such as is mentioned in paragraph (1) is made to premises otherwise than in accordance with an order of the county court or an order of some lawful authority, a court of summary jurisdiction may order the registered club to restore, as far as is practicable, the premises to their original condition within a period fixed by the order.

(5) The period fixed by an order under paragraph (4) may be extended by order of a court of summary jurisdiction on the application of the secretary of the club.

(6) If paragraph (2)(b) is not complied with, the registered club and every official of the club are each guilty of an offence and each liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.

(7) If the registered club makes default in complying with an order under paragraph (4), the club and every official of the club are each guilty of an offence and each liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.



(8) This Article does not apply to an extension such as requires authorisation under Article 15A.”.

(2) After Schedule 4 to the Registration of Clubs Order insert—

“SCHEDULE 4A

APPLICATIONS AND NOTICES UNDER ARTICLE 12A

PART 1

APPLICATIONS FOR CONSENT TO ALTERATIONS

1. In this Part “application” means an application under Article 12A(2)(a).
2. The secretary of a club which intends to make an application must, not less than 3 weeks before the time of the opening of the court sitting at which the application is to be made, serve notice of the application upon the chief clerk and at the same time serve a copy of the notice upon—
  - (a) the district commander for the police district in which the premises of the club are situated; and
  - (b) the person whose name is recorded in the register of clubs as the owner of the premises of the club.
3. The notice mentioned in paragraph 2 must be in such form and, without prejudice to paragraph 4, must contain such other information as may be prescribed by county court rules.
4. The applicant must attach a plan of the premises showing the alteration to—
  - (a) the notice mentioned in paragraph 2, and
  - (b) the copy of that notice which is served upon the district commander.
5. The district commander upon whom notice is required by paragraph 2 to be served or the person whose name is recorded in the register of clubs as the owner of the premises of the club may appear at the hearing of the application and object to the court consenting to the alteration to which the application relates.
6. A person intending to object under paragraph 5 must, not less than 1 week before the time of the opening of the court sitting at which the application is to be made—
  - (a) serve upon the applicant notice of the intention to object, briefly stating the grounds for so doing;
  - (b) serve a copy of the notice upon the chief clerk.

## PART 2

### NOTICES OF ALTERATIONS REQUIRED BY AUTHORITIES

7. The notice must be in such form and, without prejudice to paragraph 8, must contain such other information as may be prescribed by magistrates' courts rules.

8.—(1) The secretary of the club must attach to the notice a plan of the premises showing the proposed alterations.

(2) The alterations shown in the plan mentioned in sub-paragraph (1) must be authenticated by or on behalf of the authority in question in the manner prescribed by magistrates' courts rules.”.

(3) In Article 16 of the Registration of Clubs Order (register of clubs), in paragraph (2), after paragraph (d) insert—

“(da) particulars of any order made under Article 12A(2)(a), (4) or (5) in respect of the premises of the club and of any requirement in respect of those premises notice of which is served under Article 12A(2)(b);”.

(4) In Part 3 of Schedule 6 to that Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 5 fine) at the appropriate place insert—

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“12A(7)	Failure to comply with court order to make alterations etc.	5-6”
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### *Permitted hours*

#### **Removal of additional restrictions at Easter**

30.—(1) In Article 24 of the Registration of Clubs Order (general permitted hours), in paragraph (1)—

- (a) in sub-paragraph (a), omit “Good Friday or”, and
- (b) omit sub-paragraph (b) and the following “and”.

(2) In paragraph (2) of that Article—

- (a) in sub-paragraph (a)(i), omit “Good Friday or”,
- (b) omit sub-paragraph (a)(ii), and
- (c) omit sub-paragraph (b) and the following “and”.

(3) In Article 25 of the Registration of Clubs Order (consumption of liquor after permitted hours), omit sub-paragraph (b) and the preceding “or”.

(4) In Article 26 of the Registration of Clubs Order (authorisations for special occasions), in paragraph (3), omit “, Easter Day or Good Friday”.

### **Removal of restrictions on late opening on Sunday**

**31.—**(1) In Article 24 of the Registration of Clubs Order (general permitted hours), in paragraph (1)—

(a) after sub-paragraph (a) and the following “and” insert—

“(aa) on Sundays other than Christmas Day, from half past 12 in the afternoon to 11 in the evening; and”, and

(b) in sub-paragraph (c), omit “Sunday or”.

(2) In Article 26 of the Registration of Clubs Order (authorisations for special occasions), in paragraph (1)(a), for paragraphs (ii) and (iii) (but not the “or” following paragraph (iii)) substitute—

“(ii) on Sundays, from 11 in the evening to 1 in the morning of the day next following.”.

### **Extension of “drinking-up time”**

**32.—**(1) In Article 25 of the Registration of Clubs Order (consumption after permitted hours of liquor supplied during those hours), the text of which becomes paragraph (1), in sub-paragraph (a), for “30 minutes” substitute “60 minutes”.

(2) After paragraph (1) of that Article insert—

“(2) Regulations may modify paragraph (1)(a) so as to substitute “30 minutes” for “60 minutes”.

(3) Regulations may not be made under paragraph (2) unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.”.

### **Increase in number of authorisations for special occasions**

**33.—**(1) In Article 26 of the Registration of Clubs Order (authorisation for special occasions), in paragraph (2), for “85” substitute “104”.

(2) After paragraph (2) of that Article insert—

“(2A) Regulations may modify paragraph (2) so as to substitute a different number of authorisations for the number for the time being specified there.

(2B) Regulations may not be made under paragraph (2A) unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.”.

(3) After paragraph (4) of that Article insert—

“(5) A person who intends to make an application under this Article shall—

- (a) during the 3 weeks before the first occasion to which the application relates, cause notice of the application to be displayed on or near the premises of the club;
  - (b) not less than 3 weeks before that time, serve a copy of the notice of the application on the district council for the district in which the premises of the club are situated.
- (6) The notice under paragraph (5) must contain such information as may be prescribed by magistrates' courts rules.
- (7) The following provisions of this Article apply where a complaint is made to a court of summary jurisdiction under Part 8 of the Magistrates' Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 on the grounds—
- (a) that the business carried on in the premises of the club is being conducted during the hours mentioned in paragraph (1) or any period immediately following their termination in such a manner as to cause undue inconvenience to persons residing in the vicinity of the premises; or
  - (b) that such hours are causing undue inconvenience to persons residing in the vicinity of the premises.
- (8) Where the court is satisfied that the grounds of the complaint are made out, it may—
- (a) revoke the authorisation; or
  - (b) modify the authorisation or, in relation to the authorisation, the hours mentioned in paragraph (1); or
  - (c) make the continuance of the authorisation subject to such terms and conditions as the court thinks fit.
- (9) The terms and conditions which may be imposed under paragraph (8) include those requested by the district commander of the police district in which the premises of the club are situated.”.

### **Major events**

**34.—**(1) After Article 26 of the Registration of Clubs Order (but before the following cross-heading), insert—

*“Major event orders*

#### **Extension of permitted hours for major events**

**26A.—**(1) Where the Department considers that an event which is to take place in Northern Ireland will attract significant public interest (whether throughout Northern Ireland or in certain areas only), it may make an order (a “major event order”) which—

- (a) designates the event as a major event, and
- (b) provides that, during the period specified in the order, the permitted hours for registered clubs to which the order applies are the hours specified in the order.

(2) A major event order may apply to all registered clubs in Northern Ireland as a whole or in the area or areas specified.

(3) In specifying an area for the purposes of paragraph (2), a major event order may in particular do so by reference to the place or premises at which the event is to take place or the area in the vicinity of the place or premises.

(4) A major event order may impose conditions.

(5) The Department may vary or revoke a major event order; and the circumstances in which it may revoke an order include, in a case where the period specified under paragraph (1)(b) includes two or more days, circumstances in which it considers it necessary to do so because of disorder, or expected disorder, at or in the vicinity of the place or premises at which the event is taking place.

(6) The period specified in a major event order may not include Christmas Day.

(7) The hours specified in a major event order have effect in addition to the hours permitted by any authorisation under Article 26 which applies to a registered club to which the major event order applies.

(8) A major event order may make consequential, incidental or supplementary provision (including provision which modifies provisions of this Order for the purpose of giving effect to the major event order).

(9) Before making a major event order, the Department must consult such persons as it considers appropriate.

(10) Any person acting in contravention of a condition imposed by a major event order is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.”.

(2) In Article 2 of the Registration of Clubs Order (interpretation), in paragraph (2), in the definition of “permitted hours”, for “Article 26” substitute “Articles 26 and 26A”.

(3) In Part 1 of Schedule 6 to the Registration of Clubs Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 3 fine) at the appropriate place insert—

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“26A(10)	Contravening condition of major event order	3-4”
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*Young people in registered clubs*

**Removal of requirement for children’s certificate, etc.**

**35.—**(1) Article 33 of, and Schedule 5 to, the Registration of Clubs Order (children’s certificates) are repealed.

(2) In Article 32 of that Order (young persons prohibited from bars), in paragraph (4)—

- (a) after “is in a part of club premises” insert “as mentioned in paragraph (1)”,
- (b) omit sub-paragraph (b) and the following “and”,
- (c) after sub-paragraph (c) (but before the following “and”) insert “and
  - (ca) the person under the age of 18 is in the premises at a time when meals, and beverages suitable for persons under that age (including drinking water), are also available for consumption on the premises;”, and
- (d) in sub-paragraph (d), for “the certificate is operational” substitute “the person under the age of 18 is not in the premises in the evening at any time after 9”.

(3) In paragraph (5) of that Article—

- (a) in sub-paragraph (a), for “before the certificate ceased to be operational” substitute “before 9 in the evening”, and
- (b) for sub-paragraph (b) substitute—
  - “(b) the person under the age of 18 is not in the premises in the evening at any time after half past 9.”.

(4) Omit paragraphs (6), (7) and (8) of that Article.

(5) In paragraph (9) of that Article—

- (a) for “, (3), (6) or (8)” substitute “or (3)”,
- (b) in sub-paragraph (a), omit “or (6)”, and
- (c) in sub-paragraph (b), omit “or (8)”.

(6) In each of paragraphs (10) and (11) of that Article, omit “or (7)”.

(7) In Article 34A of the Registration of Clubs Order (duty to display notice relating to age), in paragraph (3)(a), after “intoxicating liquor” insert “or in relation to offences concerning the presence of such persons in club premises”.

**Underage functions**

**36.—**(1) After Article 32 of the Registration of Clubs Order insert—

**“Authorisation for underage functions**

**32A.—(1)** On the application of the secretary of a registered club, the district commander for the police district in which the club is situated may, in writing, grant an authorisation under this Article.

(2) An authorisation under this Article may authorise the club to hold an underage function—

- (a) in such part of the club premises as is specified in the authorisation, and
- (b) on the day so specified during such hours as are so specified ending no later than 1 in the morning of the next day.

(3) In this Article, “underage function” means a function which is designed to appeal to persons under the age of 18 in particular.

(4) A district commander must not grant an authorisation under this Article unless the district commander is satisfied that suitable arrangements are in place for securing that persons under the age of 18 attending the function do not have access to any part of the premises which is used for the supply, consumption or storage of intoxicating liquor.

(5) It is a condition of an authorisation under this Article that, during the period for which the authorisation is in force—

- (a) each dispenser of intoxicating liquor at a bar in the part of the club premises for which the authorisation is in force must be incapable of operation, and
- (b) access to any other container of intoxicating liquor in that part must be prevented.

(6) If the condition in paragraph (5) is contravened, the registered club and every official of the club at the time of the contravention are each guilty of an offence and each liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

(7) A registered club must not, during the period for which an authorisation under this Article is in force—

- (a) supply intoxicating liquor to a person aged 18 or over in the part of the premises in which the authorisation is in force; or
- (b) permit a person aged 18 or over to consume intoxicating liquor in the part of the premises in which the authorisation is in force.

(8) If paragraph (7) is contravened—

- (a) the registered club;
- (b) every official of the club at the time of the contravention; and
- (c) the person supplying the intoxicating liquor or, as the case may be, permitting the consumption of the intoxicating liquor,

are each guilty of an offence and each liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

(9) A person aged 18 or over who consumes intoxicating liquor in a part of club premises for which an authorisation under this Article is in force is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.”.

(2) In Article 32 of the Registration of Clubs Order (prohibition on young persons from bars), in paragraph (13), after sub-paragraph (c) insert “; or

(d) in a part of club premises for which an authorisation under Article 32A is in force or during the first 30 minutes after the authorisation has ceased to be in force.”.

(3) In Part 1 of Schedule 6 to that Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 3 fine), at the appropriate place insert—

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“32A(6) or (8)	Contravening conditions on 3-4” access to intoxicating liquor; supplying intoxicating liquor to, or permitting consumption of it by, a person aged 18 or over during underage function
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(4) In Article 106 of the Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 (use of gaming machines in registered clubs), after paragraph (7) insert—

“(7A) No gaming machine shall be made available in any premises mentioned in paragraph (1) for which an authorisation under Article 32A of the Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 (underage functions) is in force during the period for which it is in force.”.

### Private functions

**37.** In Article 32 of the Registration of Clubs Order (young persons prohibited from bars), after paragraph (3) insert—

“(3A) Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply with respect to a person under the age of 18 who is in a part of club premises as mentioned in paragraph (1) in the evening at any time after 9 if—

(a) a private function is being held in that part of the club premises (and, accordingly, other members or guests of other members do not have access to that part of the premises while the function is being held);



- (b) the person under 18 is attending the function in the company either of a parent of that person or of a parent of another person who is under 18 and attending the function;
- (c) a meal consisting of at least a main course is being served at the function; and
- (d) the person under 18 does not consume any part of the meal at a counter or structure which is being used wholly or mainly as a bar.

(3B) In its application to a sporting club, paragraph (3A) has effect as if the reference to any time after 9 were a reference to any time after 10.

(3C) In paragraph (3A), “parent”, in relation to a person under the age of 18, includes any individual who—

- (a) has parental responsibility for that person (within the meaning of the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995), or
- (b) has care for that person.”.

### **Young people prohibited from bars**

**38.—**(1) In Article 32(13) of the Registration of Clubs Order (young persons prohibited from bars), in sub-paragraph (a), for “during the part of the permitted hours before 10 in the evening” substitute “—

- (i) on a day in the period that begins on and includes 1 May and ends on and includes 30 September, during the permitted hours or, if by virtue of Article 26 the permitted hours continue after 11 in the evening, during the part of the permitted hours before that time;
- (ii) on a day not in the period mentioned in paragraph (i) if solely for the purpose of attending a prize-giving ceremony, during the permitted hours or, if by virtue of Article 26 the permitted hours continue after 11 in the evening, during the part of the permitted hours before that time;
- (iii) on any other day to which neither paragraph (i) nor paragraph (ii) applies, during the part of the permitted hours before 10 in the evening;”.

(2) In Article 32 of that Order, in paragraph (13)(b), for “10 in the evening” substitute “the time in the evening provided for under sub-paragraph (a)”.

(3) In that Article, after paragraph (13) insert—

“(13A) In the case of a sporting club at which more than one prize-giving ceremony is held in a calendar year, paragraph (13)(a)(ii) has effect only for the purpose of allowing persons under the age of 18 to attend up to three such ceremonies in the club premises in that calendar year in reliance on that provision.”.

(4) In that Article, in paragraph (14), for “10 in the evening” substitute “the time in the evening provided for under paragraph (13)(a)”.

(5) In that Article, after paragraph (14) insert—

“(15) Regulations may modify paragraph (13)(a)(i) so as to substitute a different period for the period for the time being specified there.

(16) Regulations may modify paragraph (13A) so as to substitute a different number of prize-giving ceremonies for the number for the time being specified there.

(17) Regulations may not be made under paragraph (15) or (16) unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.”.

#### *Conduct of registered clubs*

#### **Prohibition on self-service and supply by vending machines**

**39.**—(1) Before Article 32 of the Registration of Clubs Order (and the preceding cross-heading) insert—

#### *“Self-service and vending machines*

#### **Prohibition on self-service and supply by vending machines**

**31C.**—(1) A registered club must not supply intoxicating liquor for consumption in the club premises in a form which would enable the member or guest to whom it is supplied (or a member or guest that person is with) to operate the dispenser of the liquor.

(2) A registered club must not supply by means of a vending machine in the club premises intoxicating liquor for consumption in the premises.

(3) The activities prohibited by this Article include making intoxicating liquor available for consumption in the premises of a registered club which, in the absence of an official, manager or servant employed in the club, members or guests are trusted by the committee of management or governing body of the club—

(a) to pay for by placing money in a container, or by some other process, which the club has provided for that purpose, or

(b) to agree to pay for by recording by a process which the club has provided for that purpose the intoxicating liquor appropriated.

(4) If paragraph (1) or (2) is contravened the registered club is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.”.

(2) In Part 1 of Schedule 6 to the Registration of Clubs Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 3 fine), at the appropriate place insert—

“31C(4)	Supplying intoxicating liquor 3-4” in a form which enables self-service or by means of vending machine
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### **Restrictions relating to advertisements**

**40.**—(1) In Article 38 of the Registration of Clubs Order (restrictions on advertisements), in paragraph (1), for the words from “no person shall” to “the premises of a registered club” substitute “any advertisement drawing attention to any function to be held in the premises of a registered club must include a clear statement to the effect that the function may be attended only by members of the club and guests of members of the club;”.

(2) For paragraph (2) of that Article substitute—

“(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to an advertisement in so far as it relates to a function the whole proceeds of which are, after deduction of the expenses of the function, to be devoted to charitable or benevolent purposes.”.

### *Miscellaneous*

### **Code of practice**

**41.**—(1) At the beginning of Part 5 of the Registration of Clubs Order (miscellaneous) insert—

### *“Code of practice*

### **Code of practice**

**41K.**—(1) Where a person or group of persons which the Department considers to have a relevant interest produces a relevant code of practice, the Department may approve the code.

(2) A person or group has a “relevant interest” if the person or group—

- (a) is representative of registered clubs, or
- (b) is representative of persons whose business involves the production of intoxicating liquor, or
- (c) is representative of persons whose business involves dealing wholesale in intoxicating liquor, or
- (d) is engaged in research into, or otherwise has an interest in, the effects of the consumption of intoxicating liquor on personal or public health or on public order.

(3) A code of practice is relevant if it relates to the display or supply, or activities designed to promote the supply or consumption, of intoxicating liquor in registered clubs.

(4) Where the Department approves a relevant code of practice, it must give notice of its approval in the Belfast Gazette.

(5) Before deciding whether to approve a relevant code of practice, the Department must consult the Police Service of Northern Ireland.

(6) Where a person or group of the kind referred to in paragraph (1) amends a relevant code of practice, the Department may approve the amendments; and paragraphs (4) and (5) apply in relation to approving an amendment as they apply in relation to approving a code, unless the Department does not consider the amendment significant enough for those paragraphs to apply.

(7) The Department may withdraw its approval of a relevant code or of an amendment to it; and paragraphs (4) and (5) apply in relation to withdrawing approval of a code or amendment as they apply in relation to approving it.”.

(2) In Article 5(5) of the Registration of Clubs Order (grant of registration: matters of which court must be satisfied), after sub-paragraph (i) insert “; and

(j) that each of the officials of the club is aware of the responsibilities under any code of practice which the Department has approved under Article 41K (and from which it has not withdrawn its approval).”.

(3) In Article 7(4) of the Registration of Clubs Order (renewal of registration by clerk of petty sessions: grounds for clerk to refer to court), after sub-paragraph (b) (but before the following “or”) insert “or

(ba) the clerk is not satisfied that the applicant has been complying with any code of practice which the Department has approved under Article 41K (and from which it has not withdrawn its approval).”.

(4) In Article 8(3) of the Registration of Clubs Order (renewal of registration: matters of which court must be satisfied), after sub-paragraph (d) insert “; and

(e) that each of the officials of the club is aware of the responsibilities under, and has been complying with, any code of practice which the Department has approved under Article 41K (and from which it has not withdrawn its approval).”.

## PART 3

### GENERAL

#### **Guidance**

**42.—**(1) The Department for Communities must issue guidance about—

(a) the effect of the Licensing Order,

- (b) the effect of Part 1 of this Act on that Order and the practical implementation of Part 1 of this Act, and
  - (c) such other matters as the Department considers appropriate in connection with licensing premises for the sale of intoxicating liquor (within the meaning of the Licensing Order).
- (2) The Department for Communities must issue guidance about—
- (a) the effect of the Registration of Clubs Order,
  - (b) the effect of Part 2 of this Act on that Order, and
  - (c) such other matters as the Department considers appropriate in connection with the registration of clubs.
- (3) The Department for Communities must—
- (a) keep any guidance issued under this section under review, and
  - (b) revise any guidance issued under this section if the Department considers revision to be necessary in light of review.
- (4) The Department for Communities must publish any guidance issued or revised under this section.

### **Review**

- 43.**—(1) The Department for Communities must review and make a report on the implementation and effectiveness of each provision of Part 1 and of each provision of Part 2—
- (a) as soon as practicable after the third anniversary of the commencement of that provision, and
  - (b) at least once in every five years after the making of the previous report on the implementation and effectiveness of that provision.
- (2) The Department for Communities must—
- (a) lay a copy of each report under this section before the Assembly, and
  - (b) having done that, publish the report.
- (3) The Department for Communities may by regulations provide that subsections (1) and (2) are to cease to have effect on the date specified; but the regulations may not specify a date which is earlier than the tenth anniversary of this Act receiving Royal Assent.
- (4) Regulations under this section are not to be made unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.

### **Interpretation**

- 44.** In this Act—
- “the Licensing Order” means the Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996,

“the Registration of Clubs Order” means the Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, and

“statutory provision” has the meaning given in section 1(f) of the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954.

### **Minor and consequential amendments**

**45.**—(1) Schedule 1, which contains minor amendments and amendments consequential on provision made by this Act, has effect.

(2) The Department for Communities may by regulations make provision in consequence of this Act.

(3) Regulations under this section may—

- (a) amend, repeal, revoke or otherwise modify a statutory provision;
- (b) include transitional, transitory or saving provision in connection with the coming into operation of provision made by the regulations.

(4) Regulations under this section are subject to negative resolution, except as mentioned in subsection (5).

(5) Regulations under this section which contain (whether alone or with other provision) provision that amends the text of Northern Ireland legislation or an Act of Parliament are not to be made unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.

(6) The power conferred by this section is not restricted by any other provision of this Act.

### **Repeals**

**46.** The statutory provisions specified in Schedule 2 are repealed to the extent specified.

### **Commencement and short title**

**47.**—(1) The following provisions of this Act come into operation on the day after Royal Assent—

- (a) section 44,
- (b) section 45(2) to (6),
- (c) this section, and
- (d) in Schedule 1, paragraphs 1, 7(1) and (3), 11, 14 and 16 and section 45(1) so far as relating to those provisions.

(2) The other provisions of this Act come into operation on such day or days as the Department for Communities may by order appoint.

(3) An order under this section may make such transitional or saving provision, or such transitory modifications of this Act, as the Department considers appropriate in connection with the coming into operation of a provision of this Act.

(4) This Act may be cited as the Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2021.

## SCHEDULES

### SCHEDULE 1

Section 45

#### Minor and consequential amendments

#### *Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996*

1. The Licensing Order is amended as follows.
- 2.—(1) Article 2 (interpretation) is amended as follows.
  - (2) In paragraph (2)—
    - (a) omit the definition of “children’s certificate”,
    - (b) in the definition of “licensed premises”, in the full-out words at the end, after “Articles” insert “52C, 52D, 52E”,
    - (c) at the appropriate place insert—

““major event order” means an order under Article 48A;”,
    - (d) in the definition of “permitted hours”, after “44,” insert “44A”, and
    - (e) in that definition, for “and 47” substitute “, 47 and 48A”.
  - (3) In paragraph (4), for “(l)” substitute “(m)”.
  - (4) After paragraph (10) insert—

“(11) In this Order (other than Part 4A and Article 77A(3)) any reference to a district commander for a police district includes a reference to any other member of the Police Service of Northern Ireland nominated by the district commander.”.
3. In Article 5 (premises for which a licence may be granted), in paragraph (3)—
  - (a) for “Article 51(1)(b)” substitute “Articles 48B(2) to (6), 51(1)(b) and 52C(1)”,
  - (b) for “(l)” substitute “(m)”, and
  - (c) in sub-paragraph (b), at the beginning insert “except in the case of premises of a kind mentioned in Article 5(1)(m),”.
4. In Article 15(2)(e) (renewal of licence), for “(l)” substitute “(m)”.
5. In Article 17(3) (renewal of licence: certain provisions not to apply), after “44” insert “, 44A”.
6. In Article 22(6)(c)(ii) (transfer of licence), for “(l)” substitute “(m)”.



7.—(1) Article 34 (register of licences) is amended as follows.

(2) In paragraph (1)—

(a) in sub-paragraph (f), after “44”, insert “, 44A”, and

(b) omit sub-paragraph (g).

(3) In paragraph (4), for “Department” substitute “Department of Justice”.

8. In Article 58(1)(b) (prohibition on young persons in premises which sell intoxicating liquor for consumption off the premises), at the end insert “in which intoxicating liquor is made available for purchase”.

9. In Article 69F (consideration of closure order by court of summary jurisdiction), in paragraph (2)—

(a) in sub-paragraph (c), after “Article 44” insert “or 44A”, and

(b) in sub-paragraph (c)(ii), after “Article 44(2)” insert “or Article 44A(3) or (4) (as the case may be)”.

10. In Article 76D (young persons prohibited from certain pavement café areas), omit paragraphs (3) and (4).

11. In Article 77A (conditions and licences for indoor arenas and outdoor stadia), in paragraph (3), after “the indoor arena” insert “or outdoor stadium”.

12. In Schedule 1 (application for certain orders at same time as application for licence), in paragraph 7—

(a) after “44” insert “, 44A”,

(b) omit “or for a children’s certificate”, and

(c) omit “or, as the case may be, the children’s certificate”.

13. In Schedule 9 (certain applications to court)—

(a) in the title, omit “or 59”,

(b) in paragraph 1, omit “or 59”, and

(c) in paragraph 4, omit paragraph (d).

*Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996*

14. The Registration of Clubs Order is amended as follows.

15.—(1) Article 2 (interpretation) is amended as follows.

(2) In paragraph (2), omit the definition of “children’s certificate”.

(3) After paragraph (4) insert—

“(5) In this Order (other than Part 4A) any reference to a district commander for a police district includes a reference to any other member

of the Police Service of Northern Ireland nominated by the district commander.”.

**16.** In Article 16(5) (alteration of register of clubs), for “Department” substitute “Department of Justice”.

**17.** In Article 32(5) (prohibition on young persons from bars: exception where meal being eaten), in sub-paragraph (a), after “a meal” insert “consisting of at least a main course and”.

**18.** In Article 52(1) (modifications of Schedules), for “, 4 and 5” substitute “and 4”.

**19.** In Schedule 1 (provisions to be included in club rules), after paragraph 13 (day membership at sporting clubs) insert—

“**13A.** But paragraph 13 entitles a person to use facilities of the club on the day in question only if the person also engages in sporting activities of the club on that day; and paragraph 14 applies subject to this paragraph.”.

**20.** In Schedule 2 (applications for grant of registration), omit paragraph 5.

## SCHEDULE 2

Section 46

### Repeals

Short Title	Extent of Repeal
Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996	<p>In Article 2(2)—</p> <p>(a) the definition of “children’s certificate”, and</p> <p>(b) in the definition of “intoxicating liquor”, sub-paragraph (a) and, in the full-out words beneath sub-paragraph (e), “(a),”.</p> <p>In Article 30(7), the words “, Easter Day or Good Friday”.</p> <p>Article 34(1)(g).</p> <p>In Article 42(1)(a), the words “Good Friday or”.</p> <p>Article 42(1)(b) and the following “and”.</p> <p>In Article 42(2)(b), the words “or Easter Day”.</p>

Short Title	Extent of Repeal
	In Article 44(6)(a), the words “Easter Day or Good Friday,”.
	In Article 45(1), the words “other than premises to which an order under Article 44 applies”.
	In Article 45(3)(a), the words “, Easter Day or Good Friday”.
	In Article 47(6)(a), the words “Easter Day or Good Friday,”.
	In Article 50(1), the words “or Easter Day”.
	Article 58(5)(b) and the following “and”.
	Article 58(7), (8) and (9).
	In Article 58(10)(a), the words “or (7)”.
	In Article 58(11), the words “or (8)”.
	Article 59.
	Article 60(5)(a).
	Article 76D(3) and (4).
	In Schedule 1, in paragraph 7, the words “or for a children’s certificate” and “or, as the case may be, the children’s certificate”.
	In Schedule 9—
	(a) in the title, the words “or 59”,
	(b) in paragraph 1, the words “or 59”, and
	(c) paragraph 4(d).
Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996	In Article 2(2), the definition of “children’s certificate”.
	In Article 24(1)(a), the words “Good Friday or”.
	Article 24(1)(b) and the following “and”.
	In Article 24(1)(c), “Sunday or”.

Short Title	Extent of Repeal
	In Article 24(2)(a)(i), the words “Good Friday or”.
	Article 24(2)(a)(ii).
	Article 24(2)(b) and the following “and”.
	Article 25(b) and the preceding “or”.
	In Article 26(3), the words “, Easter Day or Good Friday”.
	Article 32(4)(b) and the following “and”.
	Article 32(6), (7) and (8).
	In Article 32(9)(a), the words “or (6)”.
	In Article 32(9)(b), the words “or (8)”.
	In Article 32(10), the words “or (7)”.
	In Article 32(11), the words “or (7)”.
	Article 33.
	In Schedule 2, paragraph 5.
	Schedule 5.

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**THE LICENSING AND REGISTRATION OF  
CLUBS (AMENDMENT) ACT**

**(NORTHERN IRELAND) 2021**

**GUIDE**

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## INTRODUCTION

This guide outlines the provisions of the *Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2021* (the Act) which received Royal Assent on 26 August 2021. **The Act is being brought into operation in phases:**

- the first phase of changes came into effect on 1 October 2021;
- phase 2 came into effect on 6 April 2022;
- phase 3 will come into effect on 1 June 2022;
- phase 4 will come into effect on 1 October 2022; and
- phase 5 will come into effect on 6 April 2023.

It will be of particular interest to the licensed trade, registered clubs, courts and police but should be a useful source of information for district councils, the legal profession and the general public.

The information contained in this guide should not be treated as a complete and authoritative statement of the law which is contained only in the Act and regulations made under it. This guide will be updated as and when outstanding provisions are due to come into effect.

As licensing law is a complex piece of legislation, licence holders may wish to engage the services of a solicitor in terms of bringing any applications through the courts. It is the responsibility of the licence holder to ensure that they, their servants and agents, are fully aware of their requirements under licensing law.

Copies of the Act and associated regulations may be purchased from the Stationery Office at [www.tsoshop.co.uk](http://www.tsoshop.co.uk) or by contacting the TSO Customer Services on 0870 6005522. Alternatively, this legislation may be accessed at [legislation.gov.uk](http://legislation.gov.uk).

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## **Background**

The Department for Communities is responsible for the policy and legislation regulating the retail sale and supply of alcoholic drinks in Northern Ireland.

The current law dates back to 1996 and reform was an Executive priority under the New Decade New Approach Deal.

The aim of licensing law is to try and strike a balance between the controls which are necessary for the protection of public health and the preservation of public order, and on the other hand, individual freedom of choice and the opportunity for local businesses to meet customer's expectations.

The Act amends the Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 (the Licensing Order) and the Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 (the Clubs Order).

The key changes include\*:

- Pubs and Hotels can apply to open until 2am up to 104 nights per year;
- Smaller pubs will be able to open to 1am up to 104 nights per year;
- Drinking-up time will be increased to 1 hour;
- All additional restrictions on opening hours over Easter weekend will be removed;
- Opening hours on Sunday evenings will be the same as any other night;
- There will be flexibility around opening hours for bars at major events;
- A new category of licence will be created for local producers of craft beers, ciders and spirits;
- Cinemas will be able to apply for a liquor licence and serve drink to customers watching a movie;
- Sporting clubs will be able to use their grounds for functions up to 6 times per year;
- Registered clubs will be able to open to 1am up to 104 nights per year;
- Self-service of alcohol and sales by vending machines will be prohibited;
- Restrictions will be placed on off-sales drinks promotions;



- Loyalty schemes will not be able to award or redeem points for the sale of alcoholic drinks.

**\* The changes made by the Act will not come into operation at the same time. This guide will be updated as and when outstanding changes are due to come into effect.**

## Timetable

<b>Phase 1 - Sections commenced 1 October 2021</b>	
<b>Changes to the Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996</b>	
1	Removal of additional restrictions at Easter
2	Removal of restrictions on late opening for on-sales on Sunday
3	Public houses and hotels; further additional hours
4	Alignment of closing time for liquor and entertainment
5	Police authorisations for additional hours
6	Extension of “drinking-up time”
8	Licensed race track: Sunday sales
12	Requirement for off-licence
21	Minimum price for alcohol
23	Independent review of licensing system including surrender
24	Annual publication of the number of licences
27	Removal of exemption for angostura bitters
<b>Changes to the Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996</b>	
30	Removal of additional restrictions at Easter
31	Removal of restrictions on late opening on Sunday
32	Extension of “drinking-up time”
33	Increase in number of authorisations for special occasions
<b>Phase 2 - Sections commenced on 6 April 2022</b>	
<b>Changes to the Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996</b>	
7	Major events
9	Places of public entertainment: inclusion of cinemas
10	Licence for off-sales
12	Requirement for off-licence
13	Removal of requirement for children’s certificate etc
14	Underage functions
15	Private functions
16	Delivery of intoxicating liquor to young persons
17	Restaurants and guest houses: notice displaying licence conditions
22	Occasional licences: conditions
26	Body corporate: change of directors
<b>Changes to the Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996</b>	
28	Sporting clubs
34	Major Events
35	Removal of requirement for children’s certificate etc
36	Underage functions
37	Private functions
38	Young people prohibited from bars
40	Restrictions relating to advertisements

<b>Phase 3 - Section commencing on 1 June 2022</b>	
<b>Change to the Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996</b>	
11	Local producer's premises: suitability for on-sales
<b>Phase 4 - Sections commencing on 1 October 2022</b>	
<b>Changes to the Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996</b>	
18	Prohibition on self-service and sales by vending machines
19	Restrictions on off-sales drinks promotions in supermarkets etc.
25	Code of practice
<b>Changes to the Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996</b>	
29	Consent required for alterations to premises
39	Prohibition on self-service and supply by vending machines
41	Code of practice
<b>Phase 5 - Section commencing on 6 April 2023</b>	
<b>Change to the Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996</b>	
20	Prohibition of loyalty schemes

## **LIQUOR LICENCE RENEWAL REMINDER**

Northern Ireland liquor licence holders are reminded that the current 5-year licensing period ends on 30 September 2022.

Further reminders will be published by the Department for Communities in the local press in July 2022.

The process for renewing licences is detailed in Schedule 4 to the Licensing Order (Applications for the renewal of licences), Part 1 (General procedure).

Renewal applications must be submitted to the court by 9 August and at the same time a copy of the notice of application must be served on:

- (a) the district commander for the police district in which the premises are situated;
- (b) where the applicant resides in some other police district, upon the district commander of that police district;
- (c) the district council for the district in which the premises are situated.

## **PART 1 – LICENSING**

### **Section 1: Removal of additional restrictions at Easter - Commenced 1 October 2021**

Easter weekend permitted hours now mirror what is available for any other weekend throughout the year.

Section 1 amends Article 30 of the Licensing Order (Occasional licences), Article 42 (General permitted hours), Article 44 (Additional permitted hours), Article 45 (Authorisations for additional permitted hours), Article 47 (Extension licences) and Article 50 (Restrictions as to sales for consumption off premises) by removing all references to Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

The above Articles relate to the permitted hours for the sale of intoxicating liquor under the authority of an occasional licence or in licensed premises (both on and off-sales).

### **Section 2: Removal of restrictions on late opening for on-sales on Sunday - Commenced 1 October 2021**

This section brings the **end** of general and additional permitted hours on any Sunday into line with those permitted on any other day (11pm with general permitted hours, 1am the following morning with additional hours, or 2am the following morning in pubs and hotels with further additional permitted hours).

Opening times for on-sales on Sundays (12.30pm) and Christmas Day hours (12.30pm -10pm) remain the same.

Section 2 amends Article 30 of the Licensing Order (Occasional licences), Article 42 (General permitted hours), Article 44 (Additional permitted hours), Article 45 (Authorisations for additional permitted hours) and Article 47 (Extension licences) and removes the restrictions on late night permitted hours on a Sunday (currently restricted to 10pm with general permitted hours or 12 midnight with additional hours) for premises licensed for the sale and consumption of intoxicating liquor on the premises.

### **Section 3: Public houses and hotels: further additional hours - Commenced 1 October 2021**

This section allows certain pubs and hotels to apply for an additional hour up to 104 times per year.

Section 3 introduces new Articles 44A and 44B in the Licensing Order in relation to further later opening for public houses and hotels.

The new Article 44A (Order for further additional permitted hours) gives a court <sup>1</sup>or clerk of petty sessions a power, in certain circumstances, to extend later opening by one hour in public houses or hotels which are structurally adapted to provide entertainment and/or substantial refreshment and which hold a court order for later opening under Article 44.

This means that on a night that a pub or hotel has an Article 44 order in place (until 1am), an order under Article 44A permits later opening for an additional one hour (2am).

On a night that a pub or hotel, which has an Article 44 order but not for that night, an order under Article 44A also permits later opening for three hours in premises (11.00pm – 2.00am).

Musical or other entertainment and/or substantial refreshment must be provided throughout the later opening just as if an order under Article 44 applied that day.

A late licence granted under an Article 44A may be made for a maximum of 104 days in any year (twelve month period) but may not be made for Christmas Day.

The Department may, subject to the approval of the NI Assembly, make regulations in the future to change the number of days on which orders under Article 44A may be made.

The new Article 44B (Orders under Article 44A: revocation, modification etc.) provides powers for a magistrates' court to revoke or modify an order for further later opening or to place terms and conditions on an order.

These powers mirror the powers a court has for later opening made under Article 44. The reasons why it may be necessary to revoke or modify a late opening order are if the business was conducted in such a manner to cause undue inconvenience to local residents, or that the hours caused undue inconvenience to local residents, or that the part of the premises mentioned in the order wasn't being used for the purposes of providing entertainment and/or substantial refreshment.

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<sup>1</sup> an application can be made to the county court at the grant of a licence application or a magistrates' court at any point in the future

It is important to note that a licence holder applying to a court of summary jurisdiction for an order under Article 44A is required to follow the process set out in Schedule 9 to the Licensing Order (procedure for certain applications), including placing a notice of the application in local newspapers\* and display the notice on or near the premises.

The administrative court forms to apply to the county and magistrates' courts for an order under Article 44A which will allow pubs and hotels to apply for further additional permitted hours can be downloaded from the Department's website at:

<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/licensing-and-registration-clubs-amendment-act-ni-2021-guide>

\*Newspaper notice - There is no legislative requirement to include the full list of dates for which the application relates, however the notice should include details of where any interested person may find those dates.

#### **Section 4: Alignment of closing time for liquor and entertainment - Commenced 1 October 2021**

This section ensures that entertainment stops at the end of drinking-up time.<sup>2</sup>

Section 4 adds a new Article 44C in the Licensing Order (Alignment of closing time for liquor and entertainment) to ensure that the entertainment provided during later opening under Article 44, or further later opening under Article 44A, is not allowed to continue after the end of "drinking-up time". This ensures that entertainment must end at the latest at 2.00am when an Article 44 order applies and 3.00am when an Article 44A order applies.

#### **Section 5: Police authorisations for additional hours - Commenced 1 October 2021**

This section does two things;

- allows pubs which have an Article 44 order in place to apply to the police for ad-hoc late opening, up to 20 times per year; and

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<sup>2</sup> If a licence holder wishes to continue entertainment beyond drinking-up time, any order for additional (or further) additional permitted hours is invalidated, and the sale of intoxicating liquor must cease at 11pm.

- increases the number of times smaller pubs, (which are not structurally adapted and therefore can't apply for an Article 44 order), can apply to the police for late opening from 20 to 104.

Article 45(1) of the Licensing Order (authorisations for additional permitted hours) is amended to allow police to authorise later opening (11.00pm- 1.00am), in pubs which have a court order for later opening under Article 44, on a day that is not covered in the Article 44 order.

These pubs can apply for the ad-hoc late nights up to 20 times in any year, and must continue to provide entertainment and or substantial refreshment on the ad-hoc nights granted by the police.

A new Article 45(2A) increases the number of authorisations to pubs not holding an order for later opening under Article 44 from 20 days to 104 days in any year. Multiple dates may be included in one application to the police.

It is important to note that subsection (4) inserts new paragraphs (4) to (8) to Article 45 to require a licence holder applying for an authorisation under this Article, to display a notice of the application on or near the relevant premises during the three weeks before the first occasion to which the application relates.

A new Article 45(2B) provides the Department with a power to make regulations [subject to the approval of the NI Assembly] to change the number of days in which orders under Article 45(2) or (2A) may be made.

A copy of the notice must also be served on the district council.

An administrative form of notice that pubs can use to comply with the requirement to display under Article 45 can be can be downloaded from the Department's website at:

<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/licensing-and-registration-clubs-amendment-act-ni-2021-guide>

Applications should be addressed to the district licensing officer, or the duty inspector, of the local police district in which the premises is situated.

Furthermore, there is provision for complaints from the police, council or any person owning or residing in premises within the vicinity, to be made to the courts where undue inconvenience is caused to local residents as a result of a late night authorisation. Courts are given the power to revoke an authorisation, modify the hours of an authorisation, or make an authorisation subject to such terms and conditions at it thinks fit, including those requested by the district commander of the police of the district in which the premises are situated.



## **Section 6: Extension of “drinking-up time” - Commenced 1 October 2021**

This section increases drinking-up time from 30 minutes to 1 hour.

Section 6 amends Article 46 of the Licensing Order (Exceptions from prohibition of sale etc., of intoxicating liquor outside permitted hours).

Subsection (1) amends Article 46(1) which provides for the duration of the “drinking-up time” at the end of normal opening hours or later opening in licensed premises, substituting the current “30 minutes” with “60 minutes”.

Subsection (2) provides the Department with a power to make regulations to allow “drinking-up time” to revert to 30 minutes, subject to the approval of the NI Assembly

## **Section 7: Major Events - Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section adds a new Article 48A to the Licensing Order which gives the Department the power to make a “major event order”.

A major event order will:

- designate an event taking place in Northern Ireland, which the Department considers will attract significant public interest, as a major event; and
- specify the permitted hours for the sale of intoxicating liquor for any place or premises to which the order applies.

A major event order may apply to:

- all licensed premises in Northern Ireland as a whole or a specific area(s)
- all licensed premises of a specified kind in Northern Ireland as a whole or a specific area(s)
- any place or premises for which an occasional licence has been granted, situated on the site where the major event is taking place.

Before making a major event order, the Department must consult such persons it considers appropriate. These persons may vary depending on the event, however examples would be the police and council local to where the event is taking place.

It is important to note:

- any event which is being considered for a major event order must be being held at a place or premises which is already licensed, either under Article 5(1) or Article 30 of the Licensing Order
- the Department may impose conditions for on or off-sales in any major event order (under a new Article 48B). Failure to comply with any conditions imposed by an order may result in a fine of up to £1,000

- that off-sales may be permitted only from the place or premises at which the event is taking place (but not where an occasional licence has been granted to the holder of a restaurant licence for that place or premises)
- the Department may vary or revoke a major event order
- the period specified in a major event order may not include Christmas Day
- drinking-up time and removal of off-sales in a sealed container (where off-sales are permitted) are permitted during the first 60 minutes after the conclusion of the hours specified in the major event order

The Department has developed a framework for the processing of major event orders which is available on the attached link.

[Licensing \(Northern Ireland\) Order 1996 - Registration of Clubs \(Northern Ireland\) Order 1996 - major event orders framework | Department for Communities \(communities-ni.gov.uk\)](#)

### **Section 8: Licensed race tracks: Sunday sales - Commenced 1 October 2021**

This section allows the sale of intoxicating liquor at licensed race tracks on a Sunday.

Section 8 amends Article 42 of the Licensing Order (General permitted hours) to permit “licensed race tracks”<sup>3</sup>, within the “place of public entertainment” category of premises which may be granted a liquor licence, to sell intoxicating liquor on Sundays (not including Christmas Day) from 30 minutes before the entertainment and 30 minutes after, between the hours of 12.30pm and 11.00pm.

### **Section 9: Places of public entertainment – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section amends Article 2 of the Licensing Order to include cinemas as a place of public entertainment, allowing them to apply for a licence to sell intoxicating liquor on the premises.

**The process for applying for a liquor licence is the same as for any other premises and is set out in Article 7 of and Schedule 1 to the Licensing Order.**

**As the process for applying for a liquor licence is through the County Courts it is recommended that any potential applicant engages the services of a specialist solicitor.**

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<sup>3</sup> As defined in Article 2 of the Licensing Order place of public entertainment (c) premises on a licensed track within the meaning of the [1985 NI 11.] Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1985

Cinemas will be allowed to sell intoxicating liquor

- from 30 minutes before the entertainment and up to 30 minutes after,
- between 11.30am to 11pm on weekdays,
- 12.30pm to 11pm on Sundays and
- 12.30pm to 10pm on Christmas day.

### **Section 10: Licence for off-sales – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section adds local producers of intoxicating liquor to the categories of premises under Article 5(1) of the Licensing Order which may be granted a liquor licence.

**The process for applying for a liquor licence is the same as for any other premises and is set out in Article 7 of and Schedule 1 to the Licensing Order.**

**As the process for applying for a liquor licence is through the County Courts it is recommended that any potential applicant engages the services of a specialist solicitor.**

Section 10 also adds new Articles 52B, C and D to the Licensing Order which set out specific conditions which apply to a local producer's licence.

#### **Local producer's licence: sales on own premises**

New Article 52B allows a local producer of intoxicating liquor to apply for a licence to sell their own products, from their own premises for **consumption off the premises**. Only intoxicating liquor produced on the premises may be sold.

Selling other intoxicating liquor or selling for consumption on the premises carries a fine of up to £2,500 or up to 3 months in prison, or both.

A sample may be provided for consumption on the premises as part of a tour of the premises, provided no charge is made for the sample separate to the charge for the tour.

Providing samples without a tour carries a fine of up to £1,000.

The following samples, allowed per person per day, must not be exceeded –

- 1.5 pints (852mls) Beer or Cider up to and including 6% ABV; or
- 1 pint (568mls) Beer or Cider above 6% ABV; or
- 3 measures (35mls) of any spirit; or
- 3 measures (70mls) of any liqueur

These are maximum amounts and are intended to allow local producers who have a larger product range to offer smaller samples of more products.

**The Department of Health encourages that such samples are taken over an appropriate period of time; that drink-driving is completely discouraged and that water and soft drinks are also available.**

The regulations relating to the sample amounts can be found on the attached link.

[The Licensing \(Sample\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2022 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)

It should be noted that the holder of the licence must display at all times a notice, detailing the conditions of the licence held. This notice is important as it is an offence for a person, having purchased intoxicating liquor from the holder of the licence, to consume it in the production premises or in premises which adjoin or are near the production premises and which belong to the holder of the licence or are under his control or used by his permission. The licence holder, if the consumption is with the holder's or a servant's or agent's knowledge or consent, will also be guilty of the offence.

The regulations relating to the notice, and the notice itself, can be found on the attached link.

[The Licensing \(Notice Relating to Local Producer's Licence\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2022 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)

Failure to display this notice carries a fine of up to £1,000.

Licence holders are reminded of their responsibilities under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and to ensure that access to all information contained in the notice is available to all patrons.

### **Local producer's licence: sale on other licensed premises**

New Article 52C allows local alcohol producers to sell their own products (produced on their own production premises), for consumption off the premises, in certain other licensed premises.

These licensed premises are:

- an hotel;
- a conference centre;
- an indoor arena;
- an outdoor stadium;
- a place or premises specified in an occasional licence.

The sale must be ancillary to an event which is being held on those premises wholly or mainly to promote food, drink or craftwork produced in Northern Ireland.

Sales for consumption on the premises or in any other category of licensed premises carries a fine of up to £2,500 or up to 3 months in prison, or both.

It should also be noted that the holder of the licence must display at all times a notice detailing the conditions of the licence held at the point of sale. This notice is important as it is an offence for the local producer to sell products they did not produce themselves; or for consumption on the premises, and the products can only be sold ancillary to an event being held on other licensed premises being used wholly or mainly to promote food, drink or craftwork produced in Northern Ireland, or relating to agriculture in Northern Ireland. The regulations relating to the notice, and the notice itself, can be found on the attached link.

[The Licensing \(Notice Relating to Local Producer's Licence\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2022 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://legislation.gov.uk)

Failure to display this notice carries a fine of up to £1,000.

Licence holders are reminded of their responsibilities under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and to ensure that access to all information contained in the notice is available to all patrons.

### **Local producer's licence: sales not on licensed premises**

New Article 52D permits local producers of intoxicating liquor to sell their own products, (produced on their own production premises), for consumption off the premises, at a place which is not licensed for the sale of alcohol in any way.

An event must be being held at that place which is open to the public to wholly or mainly promote food, drink or craftwork in Northern Ireland.

There are three approvals which must be obtained prior to the event taking place. It is advisable that the approvals are obtained at the earliest opportunity.

The **person organising the event** must make a request to the Department asking it to publish a statement (and this statement must be published) that the event:

- is being held to promote food, drink or craftwork produced in Northern Ireland or relates to agriculture in Northern Ireland; and
- is of importance to the area of Northern Ireland in which it is being held.

The **person organising the event** must make a request to the local police and have obtained written approval from a senior local police officer for intoxicating liquor to be sold at the event for consumption away from the place where the event is being held.

The **holder of the local producer's licence** must make a request to the local police and have obtained written approval from a senior local police officer that the holder of the licence, or a servant or agent, is permitted to sell intoxicating liquor at the event. Similarly, the intoxicating liquor being sold must have been produced on the licence holder's production premises and sold for consumption away from the place the event is being held.

Local producers may provide samples at the event.

The following samples, allowed per person per day, must not be exceeded –

- 1.5 pints (852mls) Beer or Cider up to and including 6% ABV; or
- 1 pint (568mls) Beer or Cider above 6% ABV; or
- 3 measures (35mls) of any spirit; or
- 3 measures (70mls) of any liqueur

The regulations relating to the sample amounts can be found here.

[The Licensing \(Sample\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2022 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://legislation.gov.uk)

These are maximum amounts and are intended to allow local producers who have a larger product range to offer smaller samples of more products.

**The Department of Health encourages that such samples are taken over an appropriate period of time; that drink-driving is completely discouraged and that water and soft drinks are also available.**

It should also be noted that the holder of the licence must display at all times a notice detailing the conditions of the licence held at the point of sale. This notice is important as it is an offence for a local producer to sell products they have not produced themselves or for consumption on the premises. Any person who consumes products bought at the event, at the event, also commits an offence. It is also an offence to sell products at the event unless the relevant approvals have been provided to the event organiser and the licence holder. The regulations relating to the notice, and the notice itself, can be found on the attached link.

[The Licensing \(Notice Relating to Local Producer's Licence\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2022 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://legislation.gov.uk)

Failure to display this notice carries a fine of up to £1,000.

Licence holders are reminded of their responsibilities under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and to ensure that access to all information contained in the notice is available to all patrons.

**It is important to note that the current licensing period ends on 30 September 2022 and any licence granted up to and including 30 June 2022 will need to be renewed by 30 September 2022.**

**Renewal applications must be submitted to the court by 9 August 2022. Any licence granted in July, August and September 2022 will be carried forward into the next licensing period.**

### **Industrial de-Rating information**

It should be noted that any Industrial de-Rating currently granted to a local producer's premises may be impacted by any licence granted for the sale of intoxicating liquor from those premises.

The primary function of the premises will dictate whether Industrial de-Rating is retained or not however each premises needs to be individually assessed in accordance with the rating legislation.

Where the premises are used for other purposes such as a part of the premises set aside for the retail sale of intoxicating liquor for consumption off the premises (off-sales), this part will be subject to rates payable at the full rate and a rates reassessment will need to be carried out by Land & Property Services (LPS). Licence holders should apply for a rates reassessment once licensing or physical changes have been made to premises.

LPS is unable to provide estimates of the potential impact on rateable value or Industrial de-Rating in advance of changes having been undertaken, however prospective licence holders who wish to contact LPS for further information may do so by emailing [valuation@lpsni.gov.uk](mailto:valuation@lpsni.gov.uk).

## **Section 11: Sales and consumption of intoxicating liquor in local producer's premises – Commencing 1 June 2022**

This section introduces a new Article 52E (Local producer's premises: suitability for on sales) to the Licensing Order, allowing local producers to apply to the court for a suitability order for a specific part of their premises for the sale and consumption of intoxicating liquor in the premises.

This application can be made to the county court at the time of the grant of a local producer's licence or to a magistrate's court at any time.

Once a suitability order has been granted, a new Article 52F (Local producer's premises: authorisations for on sales) allows for the application for an authorisation for the sale and consumption of the intoxicating liquor in the premises on specific dates. The permitted hours on these dates are between 4pm and 10pm. No more than 104 authorisations may be granted during a 12-month period and an authorisation may not include Christmas day.

Drinking-up time of 60 minutes is permitted under Article 46 of the Licensing Order.

**It is important to note that an occasional licence under Article 30 of the Licensing Order may not be granted for any part of a local producer's premises to which an order under Article 52E applies.**

It should also be noted that the holder of the licence must display a notice in the part of the premises to which an order under Article 52E applies, at all times when an authorisation under Article 52F is in force, detailing the conditions under which intoxicating liquor may be sold and consumed. The notice is important as it is an offence to sell intoxicating liquor unless a suitability order has been granted and an authorisation order is in place; to sell outside of the permitted hours of between 4pm and 10pm on authorised dates; or to consume or allow consumption after the permitted 60 minutes drinking up time.

The regulations relating to the notice, and the notice itself, can be found on the attached link.

[The Licensing \(Notice Relating to Local Producer's Premises – Authorisation for On-Sales\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2022 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)

Failure to display this notice carries a fine of up to £1,000.

Licence holders are reminded of their responsibilities under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and to ensure that access to all information contained in the notice is available to all patrons.

### **Industrial de-Rating information**



It should be noted that any Industrial de-Rating currently granted to a local producer's premises may be impacted by any licence granted for the sale of intoxicating liquor from those premises.

The primary function of the premises will dictate whether Industrial de-Rating is retained or not however each premises needs to be individually assessed in accordance with the rating legislation.

Where the premises are used for other purposes such as a part of the premises set aside for the retail sale of intoxicating liquor for consumption on the premises (on-sales), this part will be subject to rates payable at the full rate and a rates reassessment will need to be carried out by Land & Property Services (LPS). Licence holders should apply for a rates reassessment once licensing or physical changes have been made to premises.

LPS is unable to provide estimates of the potential impact on rateable value or Industrial de-Rating in advance of changes having been undertaken, however prospective licence holders who wish to contact LPS for further information may do so by emailing [valuation@lpsni.gov.uk](mailto:valuation@lpsni.gov.uk).

## **Section 12: Requirement for off licence – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section relates to remote sales of intoxicating liquor.

A new Article 5A in the Licensing Order requires that where a sale takes place in any way other than in person:

- the place of dispatch in Northern Ireland must be licensed to sell intoxicating liquor for consumption off the premises; and
- the person making the sale, personally or by a servant or agent, is the holder of the licence.

This section also amends Article 66 of the Licensing Order (conditions as to delivery of intoxicating liquor), requiring any person, who is not a servant or agent of the licence holder, and who is delivering intoxicating liquor to the purchaser, to make the delivery without reasonable delay, and to have with them a receipt from the holder of the licence for the purchase of intoxicating liquor.

Failure to make the delivery without unreasonable delay or to carry the relevant receipt carries a fine of up to £1000.

### **Section 13: Removal of requirements for children's certificates, etc. – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section repeals Article 59 of the Licensing Order (children's certificates) which required licensees to hold a children's certificate if they wished young people under 18 years of age to be allowed in areas of the premises which contained a bar or are used mainly or exclusively for the consumption of intoxicating liquor.

The section makes further amendments to ensure all safeguards remain in place before young people under 18 years of age are allowed in areas of the premises which contain a bar or are used mainly or exclusively for the consumption of intoxicating liquor.

These safeguards include:

- meals must be available,
- a young person must be accompanied by an adult and sit away from the bar,
- a young must leave the premises by 9.00pm (9.30pm if consuming a meal purchased before 9.00pm).

### **Section 14: Underage functions – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section relates to the suitability of certain premises and authorisation for those premises to hold functions which are designed to appeal to under 18s in particular (underage functions).

The licensed premises in question are:

- pub;
- an hotel;
- a restaurant;
- a conference centre;
- a higher education institution;
- an indoor arena;
- an outdoor stadium.

A new Article 58A in the Licensing Order permits a court to make an order specifying a certain part of a licensed premises as suitable to hold underage functions when they are satisfied the required conditions have been met.

These conditions include:

- that the part of the premises specified in the order is structurally adapted for the purpose of having functions held in it;

- that appropriate steps have been taken for securing the safety of under 18s while attending an underage function in that part of the premises and that is it otherwise suitable for underage functions;
- that suitable arrangements are in place for securing under 18s attending the function do not have access to any other part of the premises which is used for the sale of intoxicating liquor.

A new Article 58B in the Licensing Order provides for authorisations for specific functions.

The holder of a licence must apply to the relevant magistrates' courts for an authorisation for each underage function. The procedure which must be followed is set out in Schedule 10 to the Licensing Order.

An authorisation permits under 18s to be in the part of the premises which has been granted a suitability order up to 1.00am to attend the function, and up to 1.30am following the function.

A condition of the authorisation is that during the period for which the authorisation is in force:

- each dispenser of intoxicating liquor in the part of the premises where the function is taking place must be **incapable of operation**; and
- access to any other container of intoxicating liquor in that part must be prevented.

A court may place other conditions as it thinks fit. Failure to comply with any condition carries a fine of up to £1,000.

Sales of intoxicating liquor to anyone aged 18 or over in the part of the premises where the function is taking place is an offence.

The licence holder, servant or agent, is also not permitted to allow anyone aged 18 or over to consume intoxicating liquor in that part.

Furthermore, a person aged 18 or over is not permitted to consume intoxicating liquor in the area authorised for the underage function whilst the function takes place.

Sales, permission to consume, and consumption, all carry a fine of up to £1,000.

This section also makes changes to Article 108 of the Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1985. It is now an offence for gaming machines to be made available in any part of licensed premises in which an underage function is being held.

### **Section 15: Private functions – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section amends Article 58 of the Licensing Order which relates to under 18s in licensed premises. Under 18s will be able to remain on licensed premises, to attend a private function, provided certain conditions are met.

The conditions are:

- the function is held in a part of the premises where the public do not have access to for the duration of the function;
- the person under 18 is in the company either of a parent or of a parent of another person who is under 18 and attending the function;
- at least a main meal is being served at the function; and
- the person under 18 does not consume any part of that meal at a counter or structure that is being used wholly or mainly as a bar.

NB: “parent” includes any individual who has parental responsibility for that person or has care of that person.

### **Section 16: Delivery of intoxicating liquor to young persons – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section amends Article 60 of the Licensing Order which relates to the sale, etc., of intoxicating liquor to young persons.

It makes it an offence for a licensee, or servant or agent, to make a home delivery of intoxicating liquor (purchased by an adult) to any person under 18 years of age.

It also provides that in court proceedings, licensees, or servants or agents, may rely on a defence of due diligence by demonstrating that, when delivering the intoxicating liquor, they recorded details of any proof of age document they had requested in the delivery book or on an invoice.

### **Section 17: Restaurants and guest houses: notice displaying licence conditions – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section amends Article 51 of the Licensing Order (conditions as to sale etc. in guest houses and restaurants). It adds a new Article 51(4A) which requires a restaurant, and a guest house which also has a restaurant, to display a notice detailing the conditions in relation to the sale and consumption of intoxicating liquor in the premises.

This notice must be displayed in any part of the restaurant set apart for the service of meals, or for the service of intoxicating liquor and other beverages to diners before or after such meals. The notice must be displayed at all times and also be in a position where it is readily visible to any person seeking to purchase intoxicating liquor.

The notice is important as it details the licence conditions under which intoxicating liquor is sold and consumed in the premises. It is an offence to sell or consume intoxicating liquor in a licenced restaurant unless it is ancillary to a main table meal, it's served in a part of the restaurant set apart for the service of meals, or for the service of intoxicating liquor and other beverages to diners before or after such meals. It must be paid for and on the same bill as the meal, there must be other beverages available including drinking water, and no entrance fee can be charged for entry to the restaurant premises.

The regulations relating to the notice, and the notice itself, can be found on the attached link.

[The Licensing \(Notice Relating to Restaurants and Guest Houses\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2022 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://legislation.gov.uk)

Failure to display the notice carries a fine of up to £1,000.

Licence holders are reminded of their responsibilities under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and to ensure that access to all information contained in the notice is available to all patrons.

### **Section 21: Minimum price for alcohol - Commenced 1 October 2021**

This section places a duty on the Department of Health to, within 3 years of whole of this Act coming into operation, bring forward to the Assembly, legislation introducing minimum pricing for the sale and supply of intoxicating liquor and to prohibit its sale or supply below that price.

### **Section 22: Occasional licences: conditions – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section allows for the police to appear at a hearing of an application for an occasional licence and ask for terms and conditions to be placed on it.

There is also an opportunity, on request by the holder of the occasional licence, for a magistrates' court to vary or remove any of the terms or conditions if it is satisfied that it is appropriate to do so.

Failure to comply with terms and conditions placed on an occasional licence carries a fine up to £1,000.

**Section 23: Independent review of licensing system including surrender principle - Commenced 1 October 2021**

This section places a duty on the Department for Communities to appoint an independent person, within one year of this Act receiving Royal Assent, to undertake a review of the licensing system.

Subsections (2) and (3) set out the areas to be covered by the review and stipulate that the appointed person must report and make recommendations within two years of their appointment.

Subsections (4), (5) and (6) require the Department to lay the report of the review before the Assembly, publish the report, and, within six months of publication, produce and publish an action plan to address the recommendations of the review report.

Subsections (7) and (8) give the Department the power to modify by regulation the time periods by which the review and the Department's response must be completed, subject to the approval of the Assembly.

**Section 24: Annual publication of the number of licences - Commenced 1 October 2021**

This section requires the Department for Communities to publish an annual statement of the number of liquor licences in force for public houses and off-licences and any trends which may be observed from these numbers.

Licensed public houses are to be listed by district electoral area or, where feasible, by reference to smaller areas within each of those areas.

**Section 26: Body Corporate: change of directors – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This sections deals with licence holders which are made up of a body corporate.

Article 4 of the Licensing Order (persons to whom licences may be granted) is amended to require a body corporate licence holder to notify the courts and police of any change of directorship within 28 days.

Failure to comply with this requirement carries a fine up to £5,000, or up to 6 months imprisonment, or both.

Article 72 of the Licensing Order (suspension of licence) is also amended to allow the suspension of a licence on the grounds that the body corporate is no longer fit to hold a licence, having not informed the courts and police of a change of directorship.

**Section 27: Removal of exemption for angostura bitters - Commenced 1 October 2021**

This section effectively includes angostura bitters, a product of high alcohol content which is used to flavour a wide variety of drinks and food, in the definition of intoxicating liquor. This means that they may only be sold in licensed premises, or in the licensed part of premises.

## **PART 2 - REGISTRATION OF CLUBS**

### **Section 28: Sporting Clubs – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section deals with extending an area of a sporting club authorised to supply intoxicating liquor.

New Article 15A in the Clubs Order (Extension authorisations for sporting clubs) allows police to authorise, in writing, a sporting club to extend the area of its premises which is registered to supply intoxicating liquor for the purpose of holding a function.

The function must be likely to attract more people than could be accommodated in the registered club premises, and the application to the police must include a plan showing the area of the proposed extension.

The extended area will be treated as part of the registered club premises for the duration of the authorisation and therefore the function will be subject to the conditions set out in Article 30 (Functions in registered clubs) of the Licensing Order.

No more than 6 authorisations may be granted in any year. An authorisation may exceed 1 day only in exceptional circumstances, determined by the police, and must not exceed 5 days.

### **Section 30: Removal of additional restrictions at Easter - Commenced 1 October 2021**

Easter weekend permitted hours now mirror what is available for any other weekend throughout the year.

Section 30 amends Article 24 (general permitted hours), Article 25 (consumption of liquor after permitted hours) and Article 26 (authorisations for special occasions) of the Clubs Order to remove all Easter restrictions.

This corresponds with changes made for licensed premises in Section 1 of the Act.

### **Section 31: Removal of restrictions on late opening on Sunday - Commenced 1 October 2021**

This section brings the **end** of general and extended permitted hours on any Sunday into line with those permitted on any other day (11pm with general permitted hours, and 1am the following morning for special occasions).

**Opening times on Sundays (12.30pm) and Christmas Day hours (12.30pm - 10pm) remain the same.**



Section 31 amends Article 24 of the Clubs Order (general permitted hours) and Article 26 (authorisations for special occasions) and removes the restrictions on late night permitted hours on a Sunday (currently restricted to 10pm and 12pm respectively) for registered clubs.

### **Section 32: Extension of “drinking-up time” - Commenced 1 October 2021**

This section increases drinking-up time from 30 minutes to 1 hour.

Section 32 amends Article 25 of the Clubs Order (consumption after permitted hours of liquor supplied during those hours) to create similar provisions for the duration of the “drinking-up time” in private members’ clubs to those set out in Section 6 of the Act in relation to licensed premises<sup>4</sup>.

### **Section 33: Increase in number of authorisations for special occasions - Commenced 1 October 2021**

This section increases the number of late nights a club can apply to the police for.

Section 33 amends Article 26 of the Clubs Order (authorisation for special occasions) to increase the number of authorisations which can be granted by the police to any club in any year from 85 to 104.

Subsection (2) inserts new paragraphs (2A) and (2B) to Article 25 to give the Department the power to modify by regulation, subject to Assembly approval, the number of authorisations which can be granted for the time specified.

It is important to note that subsection (3) inserts new paragraphs (5) to (9) to Article 26 to require a person applying for an authorisation under this Article, to display a notice of the application on or near the club premises for which the authorisation is sought during the three weeks before the first occasion to which the application relates.

A copy of the notice must also be served on the district council.

An administrative form of notice that registered clubs can use to comply with the requirement to display under Article 26 can be downloaded from the Department’s website at

<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/licensing-and-registration-clubs-amendment-act-ni-2021-guide>

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<sup>4</sup> See page 7 of this guide for Section 6

Applications should be addressed to the district licensing officer, or the duty inspector, of the local police district in which the premises is situated.

Furthermore, there is provision for complaints to be made from the police, council or any person owning or residing in premises within the vicinity, to the courts where undue inconvenience is caused to local residents as a result of a late night authorisation. Courts are given the power to revoke an authorisation, modify the hours of an authorisation, or make an authorisation subject to such terms and conditions as it thinks fit, including any which may be requested by the district commander of the police of the district in which the club premises are situated.

### **Section 34: Major Events – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section adds a new Article 26A to the Clubs Order which gives the Department the power to make a “major event order” which will:

- designate an event, held in NI, as a major event; and
- specify the permitted hours for the sale supply of intoxicating liquor, outside of what is currently available under the Clubs Order.

The period specified in a major event order may not include Christmas Day.

The Department must consult with appropriate persons. These persons may vary depending on the event however examples would be the police and council local to where the event is taking place.

The Department may also impose conditions for the supply of intoxicating liquor in any major event order. Failure to comply may result in a fine of up to £1,000 on summary conviction.

The Department has developed a framework for the processing of major event orders which is available on the attached link.

[Licensing \(Northern Ireland\) Order 1996 - Registration of Clubs \(Northern Ireland\) Order 1996 - major event orders framework | Department for Communities \(communities-ni.gov.uk\)](#)

### **Section 35: Removal of requirement for children’s certificate, etc. – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section repeals Article 33 of and Schedule 5 to the Clubs Order (children’s certificates) which required a registered club to hold a children’s certificate if they wished young people under 18 years of age to be allowed in areas of club premises which contained a bar or are used mainly or exclusively for the consumption of intoxicating liquor.

The section makes further amendments to ensure all safeguards remain in place before young people under 18 years of age are allowed in areas of the premises which contain a bar or are used mainly or exclusively for the consumption of intoxicating liquor.

These safeguards include:

- meals, and beverages suitable for young people under 18 years of age, must be available,
- a young person must be accompanied by an adult and sit away from the bar,
- a young must leave the premises by 9.00pm (9.30pm if consuming a meal purchased before 9.00pm).

### **Section 36: Underage functions – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section relates to the suitability of a registered club to hold a function which is designed to appeal to under 18s in particular (underage functions).

A district commander, for the police district in which the club is situated, will need to be satisfied of the following conditions before authorising a function:

- that suitable arrangements are in place for securing under 18s attending the function do not have access to any other part of the premises which is used for the supply, consumption or storage of intoxicating liquor;
- each dispenser of intoxicating liquor at a bar in the part of the club premises where the function is being held are **incapable of operation**;
- access to any other container of intoxicating liquor is prevented.

The authorisation will specify the area in the registered club to hold the function and the duration of the function, up to 1.00am.

A registered club must not supply or permit consumption of intoxicating liquor to anyone aged 18 or over in the area of the club authorised to hold the function.

Failure to comply with these conditions means:

- the club,
- every official in the club at the time the conditions were contravened and
- the person supplying or permitting the consumption of the intoxicating liquor, are each guilty of an offence and each liable to a fine of up to £1,000.

This section also makes changes to Article 108 of the Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1985. It is now an offence for gaming machines to be made available in any part of licensed premises in which an underage function is being held.

### **Section 37: Private functions – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section amends Article 32 of the Clubs Order (young persons prohibited from bars) which relates to under 18s in part of club premises which contain a bar or is used exclusively or mainly for the supply, consumption or storage of intoxicating liquor. Under 18s will be able to remain on club premises after 9pm (or 10pm if in sporting club premises), to attend a private function, provided certain conditions are met.

The conditions are:

- the private function is held in a part of the club premises where other members, or guests of other members, do not have access to that part of the club for the duration of the function;
- the person under 18 is in the company either of a parent or of a parent of another person who is under 18 and attending the function;
- at least a main meal is being served at the function; and
- the person under 18 does not consume any part of that meal at a counter or structure that is being used wholly or mainly as a bar.

NB: “parent” includes any individual who has parental responsibility for that person or has care of that person.

### **Section 38: Young people prohibited from bars – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section amends Article 32 of the Clubs Order (young persons prohibited from bars). It extends the last time that young people under 18 years of age may be in the bar area of sporting club premises from 10.00pm to 11.00pm during the summer months (1 May to 30 September).

New Article 32(13A) further allows a young person to remain in the bar area of a sporting club premises until 11.00pm at any time of the year, up to 3 times per calendar year, to attend a prize-giving ceremony.

### **Section 40: Restrictions relating to advertisements – Commenced 6 April 2022**

This section amends Article 38 of the Clubs Order (restrictions on advertisements relating to functions in clubs) which restricts advertising to solely within club premises unless the function was for sport, game or other physical recreation.

Clubs are now permitted to advertise any function outside of club premises provided, where appropriate, the advertisement clearly states that **only** members of the club and their guests may attend the function.

It is important to note that the statement must be clearly visible on the advertisement.

Advertisements relating to functions where the proceeds are devoted to charitable or benevolent purposes will not be required to include such a statement.

## **PART 3 - GENERAL**

### **Section 42: Guidance - Commenced 1 October 2021**

This section places a duty on the Department for Communities to produce and publish guidance on the effects of the licensing legislation and the registration of clubs legislation, the effects of the provisions of this Act and the practical implementation of Part 1, and any other matters it considers appropriate in relation to those issues.

### **Section 43: Review - Commenced 1 October 2021**

This section requires the Department for Communities to review and report on each of the provisions in Parts 1 and 2 of this legislation as soon as is practicable after the third anniversary of the commencement of that provision and thereafter, at least once in every five years. The Department is required to lay each of these reports before the Assembly, and must then publish the reports.

The Department has a power to make regulations to discontinue these requirements, but not from any date earlier than the tenth anniversary of the Act receiving Royal Assent. The regulations cannot come into operation unless and until approved by the Assembly.

### **Section 44: Interpretation**

In this Act:

“the Licensing Order” means the Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996,

“the Registration of Clubs Order” means the Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, and

“statutory provision” has the meaning given in section 1(f) of the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954.



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Date 8 April 2022

## **THE LICENSING AND REGISTRATION OF CLUBS (AMENDMENT) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2021**

You will be aware that the [Licensing and Registration of Clubs \(Amendment\) Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2021](#) ('the Act') became law on 26 August 2021. The Act amends both the Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 ('the Licensing Order') and the Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 (the Clubs Order).

The changes made by the Act are coming into effect in phases, with phase 1 having commenced on 1 October last year and phase 2 having commenced on 6 April.

A single provision will come into effect on 1 June which relates to licensed local producers being able to apply to the courts to allow sales for consumption in the premises in certain circumstances.

I can now advise that a date has been set for the last remaining provisions of the Act to come into effect later in 2022 and early 2023.

### **Licensed Premises**

In terms of changes to the Licensing Order, which will affect licensed premises, the following sections of the Act will come into operation on **1 October 2022**:

#### **Section 18** – Prohibition on self-service and sales by vending machines

Section 18 of the Act introduces a new Article 54A in the Licensing Order, which prohibits the sale of intoxicating liquor not made under the direct supervision of a licensee or a member of staff.

#### **Section 19** – Restrictions on off-sales drinks promotions in supermarkets etc.

Section 19 of the Act introduces new Article 57ZA in the Licensing Order, which restricts the advertising of drinks promotions in supermarkets to the area in which intoxicating liquor may be displayed in such premises. Supermarkets and other licensed premises which sell intoxicating liquor for consumption at home will also not



be permitted to advertise drinks promotions available in the premises within the vicinity of the premises, or any other premises licensed to sell for consumption off the premises.

### **Section 25 – Code of practice**

Section 25 of the Act introduces a new Article 76F in the Licensing Order which allows the Department for Communities to approve a relevant code of practice produced by a person or group of persons who have a relevant interest in matters surrounding intoxicating liquor.

A court must be satisfied that for grant or transfer of a licence, any prospective licence holder is aware of any approved code, and for renewal of a licence that licence holders are aware and have been complying with such code.

The following section of the Act will come into operation on **6 April 2023**.

### **Section 20 – Prohibition of loyalty schemes**

Section 20 of the Act introduces new Article 57ZB in the Licensing Order, which prohibits the award or redemption of loyalty or bonus points for the purchase of intoxicating liquor in all licensed premises.

### **Registered Clubs**

In terms of changes to the Clubs Order, which will impact registered clubs, the remaining provisions will come into effect on **1 October 2022**

### **Section 29 – Consent required for alterations to premises**

Section 29 of the Act introduces a new Article 12A to the Clubs Order, which requires a registered club to obtain the consent of a court before making certain alterations to its premises, as is already the case for licensed premises under the provisions of the Licensing Order.

### **Section 39 – Prohibition on self-service and supply by vending machines**

Section 39 of the Act introduces new Article 31C in the Clubs Order, which mirrors that as set out in section 18 for licensed premises and prevents the supply of intoxicating liquor not made under direct supervision.

### **Section 41 – Code of practice**





Section 41 introduces new Article 41K in the Clubs Order to create similar provisions to section 25 for licensed premises, which allows the Department for Communities to approve a code of practice.

A [guide to the Act](#) is available on the Department's website which details each provision. Updates to this guide are currently being made to include these final provisions and will be available on the website shortly.

It is important that all licence holders, governing bodies and industry representatives are familiar with the changes summarised above.

I would also recommend the services of a solicitor are engaged where necessary.

Yours Sincerely

Carol Reid

**Social Policy Unit**