

GUIDANCE ON TEMPORARY EVENT NOTICES (EXTRACT FROM REVISED GUIDANCE ISSUED BY THE HOME OFFICE UNDER SECTION 182 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003)

Police and environmental health intervention

7.32 The system of permitted temporary activities gives police and EHAs the opportunity to consider whether they should object to a TEN on the basis of any of the licensing objectives.

7.33 Such cases might arise because of concerns about the scale, location, timing of the event or concerns about public nuisance. However, in most cases, where (for example) alcohol is supplied away from licensed premises at a temporary bar under the control of a personal licence holder, (for example, at weddings with a cash bar or small social or sporting events) this should not usually give rise to the use of these powers.

7.34 The police and EHA have the right under sections 109(5) and (6) of the 2003 Act to request the premises user to produce the TEN for examination. If the police do not intervene when a TEN is given, they will still be able to rely on their powers of closure under Part 8 of the 2003 Act should disorder or noise nuisance be expected or arise.

7.35 If the police or EHA believe that allowing the premises to be used in accordance with the TEN will undermine the licensing objectives, they must give the premises user and the licensing authority an objection notice. The objection notice must be given within three working days of their receipt of the TEN.

7.36 Where a standard TEN was given, the licensing authority must consider the objection at a hearing before a counter notice can be issued. At the hearing, the police, EHA and the premises user may make representations to the licensing authority. Following the hearing, the licensing authority may decide to impose conditions where there is an existing premises licence or club premises certificate at the venue or issue a counter notice to prevent the event going ahead. If the police, EHA or both give an objection to a late TEN, the TEN will not be valid.

Modification

7.37 As noted above, the police or EHA (as “relevant persons”) may contact the premises user to discuss their objections and try to come to an agreement which will allow the proposed licensable activities to proceed. The TEN can be modified (for example, by changing the details of the parts of the premises that are to be used for the event, the description of the nature of the intended activities or their duration). The other relevant person has to agree.

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Applying conditions to a TEN

7.38 The 2003 Act provides that only the licensing authority can impose conditions from the existing conditions on the premises licence or club premises certificate to a TEN. The licensing authority can only do so:

- if the police or the EHA have objected to the TEN;
- if that objection has not been withdrawn;
- there is a licence or certificate in relation to at least a part of the premises in respect of which the TEN is given;
- and if the licensing authority considers it appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives to impose one or more conditions.

7.39 This decision is one for the licensing authority alone, regardless of the premises user's views or willingness to accept conditions. The conditions must be notified to the premises user on the form prescribed by regulations.

Hearings to impose conditions

7.40 Section 105 of the 2003 Act is clear that a licensing authority must hold a hearing to consider any objections from the police or EHA unless all the parties agree that a hearing is not necessary. If the parties agree that a hearing is not necessary and the licensing authority decides not to give a counter notice on the basis of the objection, it may impose existing conditions on the TEN.