

Licensing Act 2003

Licensing Act 2003 Fee Structure

Following extensive consultation with local authorities, industry, clubs and other stakeholders about licence fees, the Department for Culture Media and Sport has announced the fees package.

Fees will recover the licensing authorities' costs of administrating, inspecting and enforcing the new regime.

There were two key findings from the consultation that needed to be addressed:

- first that the overall level of premises fees – the main generator of income for Licensing Authorities - was pitched at too low a level to enable the full costs recovery for administration and enforcement in the new regime; and
- second, that the control of premises selling alcohol would in general give rise to higher costs than other premises, particularly during transition, particularly where these were situated in town and city centres.

These findings are reflected in the revised package, main elements of which include:

- A £100-£635 one-off payment for a new licence – a rise on the previous proposal of £80-£500.
- £70-£350 for an annual fee – up from £40-£225.
- The largest town and city centre pubs paying two to three times as much for their initial application fee and annual charge.
- £37 for a personal licence
- £21 for a temporary event notice.

Subject to Parliamentary scrutiny, the new fee structure will have effect from 7 February 2005 – the beginning of the Act's transitional period, when applications for conversions to new licences can be made.

Premises Fees:

The premises fees are determined according to the rateable value of the premises, and in the case of bands D and E, whether or not their primary business is the selling of alcohol.

1. Premises and club application and annual fees – each premises that is licensable will be allocated to a fee band according to rateable value

Band	A	B	C	D	E
Rateable Value	No rateable value to £4,300	£4,301 to £33,000	£33,001 to £87,000	£87,001 to £125,000	£125,000 and above

2. Each band attracts a different level of application fee – payable during transition.

Band	A	B	C	D	E
Fee	£100	£190	£315	£450	£635

3. Premises applying to vary conditions in relation to the sale of alcohol during transition will be charged a supplementary fee, according to their fee band

BAND	A	B	C	D	E
FEE	£20	£60	£80	£100	£120

Each band attracts a different level of annual fee – payable one year after the grant of the licence.

BAND	A	B	C	D	E
FEE	£70	£180	£295	£320	£350

Rateable value bands	A	B	C	D	E
Main Application Fee	100	190	315	450	635
Main Annual Charge	70	180	295	320	350

A multiplier applied to premises in bands D and E where they are exclusively or primarily in the business of selling alcohol (mainly large town and city centre pubs).

Band	D (x 2)	E (x 3)
City / town centre pub application Fee	900	1905
City / town centre pub annual charge	640	1050

Payment to vary conditions (relates to alcohol only) during transition:

Rateable value bands	A	B	C	D	E
Variation Fee	20	60	80	100	120

Personal Licences, Temporary Events and Other Fees

6. The Licensing Authorities will also be able to charge other fees in relation to their duties, most notably for temporary events and personal licences

Application for a grant or renewal of personal licence	£37
Temporary event notice	£21
Theft, loss, etc. of premises licence or summary	£10.50
Application for a provisional statement where premises being built, etc.	£315
Notification of change of name or address	£10.50
Application to vary licence to specify individual as premises supervisor	£23
Application for transfer of premises licence	£23
Interim authority notice following death etc. of licence holder	£23
Theft, loss etc. of certificate or summary	£10.50
Notification of change of name or alteration of rules of club	£10.50
Change of relevant registered address of club	£10.50

Theft, loss etc. of temporary event notice	£10.50
Theft, loss etc. of personal licence	£10.50
Duty to notify change of name or address	£10.50
Right of freeholder etc. to be notified of licensing matters	£21