



Owner/manager

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2021 (as amended)

PSNI and the Council would like to remind you of the requirements that businesses or members' clubs which sell or provide food or drink for consumption on the premises must adhere to under the Health Protection (Coronavirus Regulations) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2021 as amended. This follows an increase in the number of COVID-19 positive cases reported during the past week in Northern Ireland and linked to functions held in hospitality premises.

Below is a summary of the requirements:

- 1. Track and Trace.** The name and telephone number of each person over the age of 16 visiting the premises must be collected, along with the date of their visit and arrival time. This information should be held for 21 days and be available within 24 hours on request for the purposes of the Test, Trace, Protect contact tracing program. This requirement is mandatory and can be achieved using an electronic or manual system to record the details. If using a QR code system you must ensure that persons visiting your premises log in and add their details. Please ensure that you meet all the requirements of General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) by keeping this information securely and destroying it 21 days later.
- 2. Risk Assessment.** The venue must carry out a risk assessment which identifies the maximum number of persons who may be seated in each part of the premises and the volume at which any background or ambient music will be played so as to enable visitors to conduct conversation at normal loudness of speech. The risk assessment must be available at the premises for inspection.
- 3. Maximum number of patrons.** The maximum number of persons who may be seated in that part of the premises must be displayed prominently, at each part of the premises.
- 4. Music / Dancing.** From 5th July 2021 live music will be permitted at licensed and unlicensed hospitality businesses that sell or provide food and/or drink for consumption on the premises. This will be at ambient level only to allow conversation at normal levels and with suitable mitigations in place, such as screens.
- 5. Table Service.** Food or drink must only be ordered and consumed by customers while they are seated at their table. A "table" includes a counter or other structure which serves

Armagh Office
The Palace Demesne
Armagh City
BT60 4EL

Banbridge Office
Civic Building
Downshire Road
Banbridge BT32 3JY

Craigavon Office
Craigavon Civic &
Conference Centre
Lakeview Road
Craigavon BT64 1AL

+44 (0)28 3752 9600

+44 (0)28 4066 0600

+44 (0)28 3831 2400

info@armaghibanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk
armaghibanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

the purpose of a table and which is not used wholly or partly as a bar for the service of food or drink. Customers must not be seated at an area used wholly or partly as a bar for the service of food or drink;

6. **Numbers at a table.** No more than six persons (not including children aged 12 or under) must be seated at a table if those persons are from more than one household. Where those seated at a table are from one household or one bubble there may be a maximum of ten people seated at a table;
7. **Movement within the premises.** Visitors are only permitted to move within the premises to enter or exit the premises, access a table, make a payment, access a buffet or carvery, access and use toilet, baby changing or breast feeding facilities, or a smoking area. Therefore visitors are not permitted to move within the premises for any other reason e.g. to use snooker/pool tables, play darts etc.
8. **Face coverings.** People who work in the public areas of any enclosed publically-accessible premises must wear a face covering, unless they are separated from members of the public by a partition. This includes, for example, a waiter in a café. Face coverings must also be worn by customers on entering and exiting the premises, and any time they leave their table, for example, to use toilet facilities, unless exempt.
9. **Social distancing.** Businesses which sell or provide food or drink for consumption on the premises are required to take reasonable measures to ensure that staff and visitors comply with social distancing measures at all times.

Where it is not reasonably practicable for a social distance of 1 metre to be maintained, you are required to take reasonable steps to ensure that—

- (a) any close face to face contact is limited between persons;
- (b) barriers or screens are installed and maintained; and
- (c) personal protective equipment is used where appropriate and in such a case is made readily available.

Social distancing between parties should be measured while customers are in the average seated position and a distance of 1 metre maintained between customers from different parties.

Functions

Please note the requirements above apply to any functions held in your premises. Some exemptions are applicable to events to celebrate a marriage or civil partnership. Further information can be found at <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-regulations-guidance-what-restrictions-mean-you#toc-13>

Officers from the Council and PSNI will be carrying out visits to premises to ensure adherence with the Regulations and relevant guidance.

Notwithstanding the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2021 (as amended), licensees should be clear that The Licensing (NI) Order 1996

remains unchanged. In particular, but not limited to, areas used for the sale and/or consumption of intoxicating liquor must be marked as “licensed area” on the premises map held by the Court.

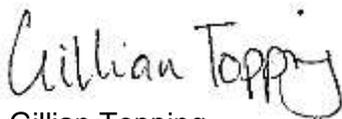
Further information

- The Regulations can be found at the following link – <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/health-protection-coronavirus-restrictions-regulations-northern-ireland-2021>
- General guidance for working safely in tourism and hospitality in Northern Ireland can be found at the following link – <https://www.tourismni.com/covid-19/practical-guidance-for-working-safely-during-covid-19/guidance-for-restaurants-pubs-and-bars/>

Advice

You can contact the Council on 0300 0300 900 or email ehhealth@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk for further information or practical advice on managing your business safely.

Yours faithfully



Gillian Topping
Head of Department: Environmental Health