

LIVE EVENTS – WHAT CAN WE DO?

Legal Interpretation of Legislation and Guidelines

	22 JULY- 31 JULY	1 AUG - 30 SEPT	1 OCT ONWARDS
CONFERENCE EXHIBITION CENTRE	None	Up to 30 for inspection and pilot events	All
HOTEL	Events up to 30	Events up to 30	All
VENUE	Events up to 30	Events up to 30	All
OUTDOOR	All	All	All

THE SMALL PRINT

- Technically, the legislation doesn't limit to 30 but the guidance does.
- The definition of the categories is open to interpretation.
- We suggest checking with your local authority if you are unsure.
- Pilot events are expected to be arranged by Gov. in permitted venues.
- The legislation does not specify if the 30 includes catering staff but the interpretation would be they are included if attending the meeting / showround but not if they are catering / back of house staff.
- Applies in England only.
- ALL events MUST comply with COVID Safe Guidelines.

Please see next page for full information on sources and other details regarding interpretation and legislation.

Please Note: This is not a legal document

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THE REALLY SMALL PRINT

Conference centres & exhibition halls

The venue owners are currently prohibited from opening – “if they are used to host conferences, exhibitions or trade shows”
Pilot scheme in place for “permitted venues only”, with a view to restarting on 1st October (with various social distancing measures)

No definition given for “conference centre or exhibition hall”, but a “trade show” is defined a “an event held to bring together members of a particular industry to display, demonstrate and discuss their latest products and services with members of the public”

Dictionary definition of conference centre: a large venue designed for conferences often consisting of a large hall as well as a number of smaller lecture rooms and other facilities”.

From 1st August: venues allowed to open to show small groups around to plan events for the future

Gatherings of over 30 people

Starting point is that people are prohibited from attending any gathering: a) in a public, outdoor place b) in a private dwelling
The prohibition is on the attendee!

Private Dwellings: appears to only cover residential premises (even hotel accommodation is exempt): thus there is NO prohibition on people gathering in groups over 30 in corporate premises

Public Outdoor Place: if it is "part of the premises used for the operation of a business": thus there is NO prohibition on people gathering in groups over 30 on corporate premises.

Exception 1: Outdoor gatherings organised by a business over 30 are permitted so long as provided that the organiser has passed a risk assessment (under the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999) & taken all reasonable measures to limit the risk of transmission of the coronavirus, taking into account the risk assessment

Exception 2: Same exception, but for private boats (not a houseboat or one being used for public transport)

Exception 3: Where it is “reasonably necessary”

In theory when looking at the legislation ONLY, an event for more than 30 could be held at a non-residential indoor or privately owned outdoor venue. There are no restrictions on the people attending or an event organiser – but it would be up to the venue organiser to decide if they are able to provide that venue (ie. are they classified as a “conference centre or exhibition centre”).

It is, however, made very clear in the guidance that indoor events in non-residential venues are for up to 30 pax. It is possible that there is that this is an accidental omission from the legislation. There is scope for this to be explored further with the Government if required. Please contact Travlaw if you would like further clarification.

It is possible to have gatherings of over 30 people either “in a public, outdoor place” or on “private boats” – provided a risk assessment is done etc.

Gatherings of under 30 people

No restrictions indoor or out (BUT the conference centres and exhibition halls are prohibited from opening)

No specific rules to ban “business meetings”

No specific rules re social distancing *this seems odd, but may fall under the venue owner’s obligations under the existing “Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999”

New Powers for the Local Authority

The Local authorities now have the power to put restrictions, impose requirements etc on events or premises hosting events

SOURCES

04/07/20 – The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (No. 2) (England) Regulations 2020

11/07/20 - The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (No. 2) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2020

17/07/20 – Guidance note 1- “Visitor Economy” - pilot schemes for exhibition halls and conference centres from 1st August

17/07/20 – Guidance note 2- “Closing/re-opening businesses” - business conference events to go ahead from 1st October

18/07/20 – The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (No. 3) (England) Regulations 2020

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