

THEATRES

GENERAL CONDITIONS

- 1. The Licensee or Manager shall be responsible for the day-to-day running of the premises. There shall be sufficient staff on duty when the premises are open to the public.
- 2. The terms of the Theatres Act 1968 shall be complied with.
- 3. The Licensee or Manager shall give clear instructions to staff on their duties in the event of fire. A legible statement of such duties shall be posted within the premises. The Licensee shall comply with any requirements of the Firemaster.
- 4. The number of people admitted to the premises shall be strictly controlled to ensure that the premises do not become overcrowded.
- 5. The premises must be structurally sound and safe. Any scaffolding for staging, props or seating shall be adequately designed and constructed for the load to which it is to be subjected. The means of suspension for scenery, lighting grids and similar items shall be to the satisfaction of the Council.
- 6. The general layout and arrangement of the premises shall be such as to allow safe and orderly evacuation in the event of fire.
- 7. All approaches, staircases and passageways shall be kept free from obstruction. No seat or other obstruction shall be placed in any of the passageways and no-one shall be allowed to stand or sit in any passageway during performances.
- 8. All doors and barriers shall open outwards and shall not be fastened or locked except by emergency bolts when the premises are open.
- 9. All exit doors in the premises shall be indicated by a fixed lighting transparency bearing the word "EXIT" in letters not less than 10 centimetres high. All exit doors shall be opened immediately before the end of each performance. The transparency shall be illuminated by a maintained system of lighting and must be visible from the auditorium at all times when the premises are open to the public.
- 10. Any decorative surface finishing shall be either non-combustible or durably flame-proofed.
- 11. Dangerous and naked flames or lights shall not be used on or near the stage without prior consultation with the Firemaster and complete adherence to his requirements.
- 12. A fire-proof screen or curtain shall be provided between the stage and the auditorium. The screen or curtain shall be lowered at least once during each performance. No article shall be placed so that it prevents the lowering of the screen or curtain.
- 13. All scenery, curtains, drapes and fabrics in the premises shall be flame-resistant.
- 14. The use of smoke bombs, smoke generators, flash powder, flash boxes, detonators and similar items is not permitted without the written approval of the Firemaster and the Council.
- 15. All upholstered furniture shall comply with the Smouldering Cigarette Test and Butane Flame Test in British Standard 2852, Part I, 1979.
- 16. In theatres with annual licences, an electric fire alarm shall be installed, regularly tested and kept in good working order and repair between the premises and the Fire Station. All defects in the alarm system shall be immediately repaired.
- 17. The Licensee or the Manager shall intimate every outbreak of fire to the Firemaster immediately.
- 18. Lasers or other similar devices shall not be used without the Council's written permission.
- 19. When the majority of the people in the premises are under the age of 16 or a performance is intended to be for people under that age, there shall be stationed on the lowest floor of the auditorium at least one attendant for every 100 people present and on all other floors at least one attendant for every 50 persons present there.
- 20. The premises shall be lit to the satisfaction of the Council. A maintained system of secondary lighting throughout the building shall be provided, kept in proper working order and kept on when the premises are open to the public.

- 21. The electrical installation to the premises shall be kept in proper working order. No alterations or additions to the electrical installation shall be made without the Council's written consent.
- 22. No temporary electric lighting installation shall be used in any part of the premises without the Council's written consent. All temporary connections to the permanent installation in the premises shall be disconnected immediately after each performance.
- 23. When the premises are open, the maintained secondary lighting shall illuminate every part of the auditorium so that the audience can adequately see exit route gangways and along rows of seats, if the main lighting is turned down or fails.
- 24. All gas taps in the premises shall be out of reach of members of the public and all electrical lighting switches to public areas shall be inaccessible to the public.
- 25. The premises shall be properly ventilated and heated to the satisfaction of the Council. Temporary or moveable forms of heating shall not be used without the Firemaster's written approval.
- 26. Sanitary accommodation shall be provided to the satisfaction of the Council.
- 27. The Food Hygiene Regulations and The Health and Safety at Work Act, 1974, shall be complied with.
- 28. The Council shall have prior notification of the name(s) of a person or persons who will be available during all performances and responsible for ensuring any music or public address system is controlled so as not to cause a nuisance to the satisfaction of the relevant Executive Director or his appointees.
- 29. A telephone shall be installed in the premises.
- 30. The Licensee shall display the Theatre Licence and Conditions in a prominent position in the premises.
- 31. No alterations shall be made to the structure, seating arrangements or exits without the Council's written consent.
- 32. The Firemaster, any Police Constable and any authorised Council Official shall be permitted free access to the premises at any time.
- 33. No exhibition, demonstration or performance of hypnotism shall take place except with the Council's written consent.
- 34. The Council or the Firemaster shall have the power to set a limit on the maximum number of people to be admitted to the premises for any performance.
- 35. The opening hours shall not deviate from any imposed by the Council's Planning and Development Committee.
- 36. One or more earth leakage circuit breakers must be installed if live amplified music is to be performed on the premises. The installation should comply with the current Institute of Electrical Engineers Regulations.
- 37. Adequate arrangements must be made for the welfare of animals appearing in performances to the satisfaction of the relevant Executive Director.
- 38. The licence shall not be effective until the licensee has received final clearances from the Firemaster and the Council's relevant Executive Director confirming that the premises may be operated. THIS CONDITION APPLIES ONLY WHERE FINAL CLEARANCE IS REQUIRED