

Licensing

Medway Safeguarding Children Board is the designated authority for ensuring that licensing applications adequately make provision for safeguarding Children in Medway. Board staff are responsible for ensuring that minimum standards are adhered to in new premises applications and making submissions when they are not.

MSCB has considered 60 license applications in 2007-08 and made three objections to the licensing department. On each occasion discussions between the MSCB and applicants resolved issues and objections were subsequently withdrawn.

Through this work Children are safer in licensed premises with provisions for adult supervision and underage sales added to a number of applications. Board staff have drawn up a standard set of provisions which it would like all applicants to consider.

Admission of children

- Children are only allowed in the restaurant area, garden and children's room.
- A notice is placed at the entrance informing customers of the areas of the premises where children are allowed.

Supervision of Children

- Children in licensed premises can become vulnerable when in the presence of adults who are intoxicated. Children must be appropriately supervised and adult behaviour monitored. Vulnerability due to predatory paedophiles and also exposure to violence and aggression.

Time restrictions

- For example, a stated policy that children will only be allowed on the premises from Monday to Saturday until 9pm and on Sunday until 6pm.

Proof of age

- This must also be closely monitored as children may take risks if they are intoxicated. Their judgement becomes impaired and they are less able to judge risks for themselves.
- A list of accepted methods of proving a customer's age, for example:
 - passport,
 - driving licence,
 - Citizencard,

- [Connexions](#) card.

Refusal book

- A refusal book is kept on the premises to record details of those refused entry.

Entertainment

- Where entertainment of an adult or sexual nature is provided, children under the age of 18 years are not allowed into the premises.
- During events specifically for people under the age of 18 years, adult staff are employed to ensure their safety.