

GOAL!!!!

World Cup relaxation of Licensing Hours

31 March 2014



As reported by us on 13 March, the Home Office has been consulting on whether there should be a national relaxation of licensing hours for all England World Cup matches with a scheduled kick off time of 8pm (UK time) or later or whether this should be a local decision using the existing system of Temporary Event Notices.

In announcing a relaxation today, the Government has said that *“England playing in the World Cup is an occasion of exceptional national significance”*. Let’s just hope we get some equally significant results!

The relaxation will apply in England during England matches in the World Cup with a scheduled kick off time of 8pm or later. It will be for the sale of alcohol and late night refreshment for consumption on the premises. It will not cover regulated entertainment too. The relaxation will last to a latest time of 1am. The Government says that *“this length of time covers any extra time and penalties, and will also mean that customers are likely to leave premises gradually after the match, minimising any nuisance to the public”* and believes *“that 1am is an acceptable cut off time and premises wishing to extend their hours beyond this could do so using a TEN”*. TENs will also still be needed for extended hours sought for non-England matches.

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