



Licensing Act 2003

2003 CHAPTER 17

PART 3

PREMISES LICENCES

General provision

[^{F1}55A Suspension of premises licence for failing to pay annual fee

- (1) A licensing authority must suspend a premises licence if the holder of the licence has failed to pay the authority an annual fee that has become due under section 55(2).
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply if—
 - (a) either—
 - (i) the holder's failure to pay the fee at the time it became due was because of an administrative error (whether made by the holder, the authority or anyone else), or
 - (ii) before or at the time the fee became due, the holder notified the authority in writing that the holder disputed liability for, or the amount of, the fee, and
 - (b) the grace period for payment of the fee has not expired (see subsection (8)).
- (3) If a licensing authority suspends a premises licence under subsection (1), the authority must give the holder of the licence a notice to that effect, specifying the day the suspension takes effect.
- (4) A day specified in a notice under subsection (3) must be at least two working days after the day the authority gives the notice.
- (5) If the holder of the licence pays the annual fee, the licensing authority must give the holder written acknowledgement of receipt of the fee.
- (6) The acknowledgement of receipt under subsection (5) must—
 - (a) specify the day the authority received the fee (the “receipt day”), and

Changes to legislation: Licensing Act 2003, Section 55A is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 13 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

- (b) be given to the holder as soon as is reasonably practicable but in any event—
 - (i) if the receipt day was a working day, before the end of the first working day after the receipt day,
 - (ii) otherwise, before the end of the second working day after the receipt day.
- (7) A suspension of a premises licence under subsection (1)—
 - (a) takes effect on the day specified in the notice under subsection (3), and
 - (b) ceases to have effect on the receipt day, as specified in the acknowledgement of receipt under subsection (5).
- (8) In this section, the “grace period” for payment of a fee is the period of 21 days, beginning on the day after the day the fee became due.]

Textual Amendments

F1 S. 55A inserted (25.4.2012) by [Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 \(c. 13\)](#), **ss. 120(3)**, 157(1) (with s. 120(6)); S.I. 2012/1129, art. 2(d)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1 S. 55A applied (with modifications) (31.10.2012) by [Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 \(c. 13\)](#), **ss. 129(6)(a)**, 157(1) (with s. 138); S.I. 2012/2670, art. 2(b)

Changes to legislation:

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- Pt. 5A inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(2\)](#)Sch. 17
- s. 2(1A) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(1\)](#)
- s. 10(4)(e) and word inserted by [2011 c. 13 s. 121\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 140(2)(e) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 141(2)(e) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(5\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 143(2)(e) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(6\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 144(2)(e) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(7\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 147A(4)(c) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(8\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 153(4)(d) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(9\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 197(3)(cza) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(12\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 197A197B inserted by [2011 c. 13 s. 121\(2\)](#)