

## **COVID-19 Supplementary guidance: Opening of outdoor areas at hospitality venues from 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

### **Guidance on what is outdoors and structures – Step 2 advice**

To be considered ‘outdoors’, shelters, marquees and other structures can have a roof but need to have at least 50% of the area of their walls open at all times. The structures must be compliant with the requirements of the Health Act 2006, which is normally applied to smoking shelters.

**If a marquee is erected, you must consider any adjacent walls even if they are not part of the actual structure as these will impede air flow if they are too close. If the area does not have a roof then it will be considered to be outside.**



Pods and sheds which do not have open sides are considered to be inside even if they are only to be occupied by single groups or households. Therefore they should not be used until Step 3.

## **Outside Music – Step 2 advice**

Live music outside is not permitted under Step 2.

Other music should be at low levels so anyone in the area do have to raise voices to be heard. The music and noise must not cause a nuisance to residents in the surrounding area.

## **Collection of Contact Details**

The Regulations were amended 29 March 2021 and you must now request that every individual scan the NHS QR code or provide their contact details upon arrival, not just the lead member of the group. This is to make sure that every person can receive timely public health advice if they may have been exposed to COVID-19. You should make sure that all your staff have been notified of this change and understand that they are now required to ask all people entering the venue to scan the NHS QR code or provide their contact details. Exemptions include children under the age of 16 and people entering the venue for drop off / takeaway only.

Before reopening your venue, you must make sure that you understand your obligations to:

- Display an official NHS QR code poster
- Request that all customers and visitors scan the NHS QR code or provide their contact details
- Keep a record of all staff including shift times
- Provide an alternative method to collect contact details which doesn't require ownership of a smartphone
- Keep information securely for 21 days before destroying it, and provide it to NHS Test & Trace if requested.

Take reasonable steps to refuse entry to those who refuse to participate. This means you must to the best of your ability comply with the requirement to refuse entry and you should satisfy yourself that you have done all that could reasonably be expected.

## **Additional requirements for hospitality:**

- Reasonable steps are taken to ensure no bookings are accepted for a group of more than six persons or two households in Step 2 for outdoor hospitality
- Reasonable steps are taken to ensure no persons are admitted to the premises in a group of more than six persons or two households in Step 2 for outdoor hospitality
- Reasonable steps are taken to ensure no person joins another group (mingling)
- Reasonable measures to ensure social distancing is maintained between tables occupied by persons who are not in the same qualifying group:
  - (i) at least two metres, or
  - (ii) at least one metre, if—
    - (aa) there are barriers or screens between tables;

(bb) the tables are arranged with back to back seating, or otherwise arranged to ensure that persons sitting at one table do not face any person sitting at another table at a distance of less than two metres.

Take care not to compromise the 1m separation rule in the seated position for back to back to back customers. We will be taking any breaches of this seriously as it's a minimum standard

- Businesses serving alcohol must offer table service only (order, serve and eat/drink while seated)
- Display a notice in a conspicuous location in the area in which face covering must be worn advising of the requirements to wear face covering in indoor areas, or take other measures to inform person entering the indoor area without a face covering of the requirement
- Face covering to be worn by customers when indoors to access premises and use toilets
- Ensure the business has carried out a COVID-19 risk assessment, and measures are in place