

**Licensing and COVID-19 (Coronavirus)**

**Guidance and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

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| **Important - read this first** | |
| **Date:** | **19 June 2020** |
| This guidance is for current licence holders and anyone planning to apply for a new Licence. It explains the changes we are making to our Licensing services to help minimise the disruption caused to licence holders by Covid-19.  This guidance includes changes introduced by the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020. It may change in line with developing Government guidance and legislation. | |

# Health advice for ALL licence-holders

Everyone has a role to play in limiting the spread of Covid-19. Licence holders, including taxi and private hire car drivers, are reminded to follow Government advice including advice on isolation if you have symptoms.

This is on the Government website: <https://www.gov.scot/?utm_source=www2.gov.scot&utm_medium=banner&utm_content=notificartion-banner-text-button&utm_campaign=www2>

# All New and Renewal applications are required to complete and submit a Covid-19 Risk Assessment along with the application form (and any additional associated documents). You can find a risk assessment template and guidance to completing the risk assessment here <https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/coronavirus/business/reopen>

# How to use this document

These FAQs are in Parts. Part 1 applies to everyone who uses our Licensing services. Read Part 1 and then go to the Part which applies to you.

Parts:

1. Licensing changes because of Coronavirus

2. Drivers of Taxi and Private Hire Cars ("Taxi Driver's Licence")

3. Operators of Taxis and Private Hire Cars: "Taxi Licence" or "Private Hire Car Licence"

4. Alcohol: Premises Licences

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7. Tattoo and/or Skin Piercing

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10. Street Traders

11. Take-Away food shops

12. Window Cleaners

13. Caravans

14. Landlords and Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)

15. Gambling

16. Animals

# 1. Licensing changes because of Coronavirus

## 1.1. "What is the 'Emergency Period' " ?

These FAQs often refer to the "Emergency Period". We use this to mean the period which started on Thursday 26 March 2020 and will continue until the Scottish Government says it has stopped.

The rules for businesses and the public during the COVID-19 Emergency are set by the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 No. 103. These rules have changed since 26 March as the restrictions have been relaxed.

The Regulations are on the Government website: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2020/103/regulation/6/made>

## 1.2. "Is the Licensing Office open?"

East Lothian’s Licensing Office are not currently offering appointments at our Service Desk.

If you would normally be giving us documents in paper (such as licence application forms, Driving Licences, and 'right-to-work' documents like Passports), you should scan these onto computer and send them to us as email attachments. Alternatively, you can submit documents (and payments) at John Muir House, Haddington, EH41 3HA. The office is open Monday to Friday, 10.00am to 12.00pm and 2.00pm to 4.00pm (3.30pm on Friday).

You should send emails to [licensing@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@eastlothian.gov.uk)

## 1.3. "Are there any Committee and Board Meetings?"

All planned meetings of the Licensing Committee and the Licensing Board have been postponed.

We will contact you directly about alternative arrangements - Councils and Boards have special rules called "Schemes of Delegation" which mean that sometimes decisions can be taken by officers of the Committee or Board without the need for a meeting.

If these rules do not cover your case, then you will not get a decision until the Licensing Committee or Board next meets.

## 1.4. "How do I apply for a Licence?"

You can find electronic copies of our applications elsewhere on this website.

* Your application should be signed before it is scanned onto computer.
* Scans of any necessary documentation should accompany the application.
* Images of documents must be clear and legible.
* Payments are to accompany applications. You can include a cheque with your posted application, make a payment online at [www.eastlothian.gov.uk/payforit](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/payforit) or pay by credit/debit card at John Muir House, Haddington, EH41 3HA.

Please be aware that it may take some time to review and process your application, and it could be several months before we make a decision. There are time-limits for us to process some (not all) types of Licence (for example, the period for a Taxi Driver's Licence, and any other Licence under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 is 12 months - this time limit was extended by emergency legislation made by the Scottish Parliament).

## 1.5. "What is the rule for RENEWAL of Licences under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (Not Alcohol Licences)?"

The Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 is the Law that covers Taxis, Private Hire Cars, Street Traders, Market Operators and Public Entertainment. **This does not include alcohol licences**.

In the case of Taxi Driver's Licences, and any other Licence under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (except for "Temporary Licences"), as soon as you apply for renewal, the existing licence is continued, but **otherwise the usual rule is 'there is NO automatic continuation'**

Therefore you should aim to apply for renewal before your licence expires, leaving enough time to let the Council **both**

- process your application and

- grant the renewed Licence

before the existing Licence expires.

**If you don't apply for renewal in good time to allow us to process and grant the renewed Licence, it is very likely that you will have to apply for a new Licence, and you will not have a Licence (and not be able to work on it) for months.**

## 1.6. "Can I get a refund on my Licence Fee?"

If you have a Licence but you cannot operate your business, you cannot get a refund or ask for it to be held in credit towards a fee for a later application. This because the fee covered the work to deal with your application.

# 2. Drivers of Taxi and Private Hire Cars ("Taxi Driver's Licence")

## "What I should I do to keep myself and my passengers safe?"

"I have fitted a screen to my car, or plan to do so. What do I need to do?"

Drivers should follow the health advice on the Government Internet website:

<https://www.gov.scot/?utm_source=www2.gov.scot&utm_medium=banner&utm_content=notificartion-banner-text-button&utm_campaign=www2>

This states:

* People with a new persistent cough, high temperature or loss of taste/smell should stay at home
* Do not drive your vehicle if you have the symptoms
* Where possible, ask all passengers to sit in the back of your vehicle
* Keep your vehicle clean to reduce the impact of the virus
* Regularly clean surfaces, such as card payment devices, steering wheels, handbrake, and door handles, with normal cleaning products. (As a minimum: at the beginning, middle and end of a shift)
* Carry a box of tissues and use tissues to catch coughs and sneezes
* Dispose of used tissues in the bin as soon as possible
* Wash hands frequently with soap and water (you can keep a bottle of water and a bar of soap in your vehicle) or use a sanitizer gel - do this for at least 20 seconds. Sanitizer gel should be a minimum 60% alcohol.

# 3. Operators of Taxis and Private Hire Cars: "Taxi Licence" or "Private Hire Car Licence"

## "Do I need to get my car inspected at the Council's garage?"

This depends on why you want the test. You might want a test because

(a) you don't have a Licence

(b) you have a Licence, but you want to substitute your current car for a new car

(c) you have a licence, and the car is due its inspection because of the Licence Conditions - Taxis and Private Hire Cars need to be inspected at the Council garage every 12 months

## "I want to change the car on my Licence. What do I need to do?"

The Council garage is still operating, so the procedure to substitute the vehicle is much the same as before the "Emergency Period":

1. Use the usual application form.

2. Complete this, scan it onto computer and email it;

3. Make the application fee payment as described in Part 1.4.

## "I have fitted a screen to my car, or plan to do so. What do I need to do?"

You should do two things:

**1. Contact your insurers**

Say what you have done or plan to do. Ask your insurers to say that they agree. The reason you want this is that your insurance policy probably says that you cannot make unauthorised changes to the car, so you need the insurer's agreement - otherwise the policy might be cancelled.

It is a good idea to ask the insurers to send you their agreement in writing.

**2. Email the Council**

If the insurers agree, complete the email in the box below and send it to us at [licensing@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@eastlothian.gov.uk)

The email is to include the following information:

|  |
| --- |
| To East Lothian Council  licensing@eastlothian.gov.uk  Licence-Holder's name ................................................ [add your name]  Licence Number .......................................... [add your Licence Number]  Registration number of vehicle .............................. [add Registration no.]  I have fitted a screen to the above vehicle.  I confirm that:  - the screen has been properly and securely fitted so that it is not a danger to any occupants in the vehicle,  - I have informed my insurer, and  - the insurance for the vehicle remains in place. |

When we have this email we will record this as an authorised 'material change' to your Licence.

The fitting of the screen will be checked at your next Vehicle Inspection.

We have sent this email/letter to all operators:

# 4. Alcohol: Premises Licences

## "Is my 'Premises Licence' affected by COVID-19?"

No, the Premises Licence itself is not affected, but see below because the Personal Licence held by the 'Designated Premises Manager' might be affected.

## "I have a Premises Licence for a pub or restaurant. Can I open?"

Not for on-sales (sit-in) eating or drinking. You must not allow these during the Emergency. If you do:

- you can be prosecuted and face a fine of up to £10,000;

- the Police can issue on-the-spot fines of £60

- the Council might issue a Prohibition Notice or revoke or suspend your Licence

- the Police might make a Closure Order

The Law is in Regulation 3(1) of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. Your Premises are listed in Part 1 of Schedule 1 to those Regulations.

The prohibition applies to:

- Restaurants, including restaurants and dining rooms in hotels or members’ clubs

- Cafes (there are a few exceptions)

- Bars, including bars in hotels or members’ clubs

- Public houses

- Beer gardens or "Outside Drinking Areas" which form part of the Premises Licence

## "I have a Premises Licence for an off-licence shop. Can I open?"

Yes, but you have to follow 'social distancing' rules both inside your shop and outside it.

If you don't

- you can be prosecuted and face a fine of up to £10,000

- the Police can issue on-the-spot fines of £60

- the Council might issue a Prohibition Notice or revoke or suspend your Licence

- the Police might make a Closure Order

You must take all reasonable measures to ensure that

(a) a distance of two metres is maintained between any persons on the premises (except between two members of the same household, or a Carer and the person assisted by the Carer),

(b) the premises only admit people in sufficiently small numbers to make it possible to maintain that distance,

(c) a distance of two metres is maintained between any person waiting to enter the premises (except between two members of the same household, or a Carer and the person assisted by the Carer).

The Law is in Regulation 4(1) of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. Your Premises are listed in Part 3 of Schedule 1 to those Regulations.

## "The 'Designated Premises Manager' cannot get 'refresher training' before the 5-year deadline. What happens?"

See the answer in Part 5 to "My 'refresher training' course was cancelled ..."

## "I don't have 'off-sales' in my Premises Licence. Can I sell ALCOHOL to take-away?"

If you want to add ‘off-sales’ to your Premises Licence you will need to apply for a Major Variation to this. The application form can be found at [www.eastlothian.gov.uk](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk)

## "I have 'off-sales' in my Premises Licence. Can I sell ALCOHOL to take-away?"

Yes, but only where this is sold on the premises for consumption off the premises.

## "Can I sell FOOD to take-away?"

Yes, but only if you have a Food Safety Certificate from the Council's Environmental Health Department. This is different from the Licensing Board which granted your 'Premises Licence'.

During the "Emergency Period" you can sell food for take-away or for home-delivery even if your Licence does not cover this. If you want to keep doing these after the Emergency, you will need to ask the Board to vary your Licence.i

## "Can I do home-delivery of ALCOHOL?"

(a) if you already hold a Premises Licence which allows you to do this:

Yes. For example, some large supermarkets are already licensed to do provide home delivery of alcohol. Premises licensed for home delivery of alcohol must adhere to the existing home delivery of alcohol conditions, and in particular, must never leave alcohol on the doorstep and walk away - the person making the delivery must see the recipient before making the delivery. If that person is not satisfied that the recipient is 18 or over 18, delivery of alcohol must be refused (if the order includes food, the recipient can still have the food).

(b) if not:

you will need to apply for a Major Variation to this. The application form can be found at [www.eastlothian.gov.uk](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk)

# 5. Alcohol: Personal Licences

## "My 'refresher training' course was cancelled because of COVID-19, and I can't get a training course before the 5-year deadline. What happens?"

Any Personal Licence Holder must do two things:

(a) get a 'refresher training' certificate within 5 years of the Licence being issued, and

(b) show the certificate to the Board (the original or a copy) within 3 months of the end of that 5-year period.

During the "Emergency Period", you have an extra 15 months to do both (a) and (b) because the Board has a Policy (set out below).

This Policy only affects refresher training. It does not affect renewal of a Personal Licence. The rules are different:

All Personal Licence last 10 years (the Licensing Board cannot change this). One of the requirements imposed by the legislation is that every 5 years the Licence-Holder must get 'refresher training', and then tell the Licensing Board within 3 months after the end of the 5-year period.

So, if your Personal Licence was granted in 2015, the Licence itself would not be due for renewal until 2025, but the deadline for you doing 'refresher training' would be sometime in 2020. Because of the Policy, you have more time.

The new Policy is:

*"For the duration of the COVID-19 Emergency, where the Board is satisfied on written evidence from the training course that:*

*1. a Personal Licence Holder had booked a 'refresher training' course to be held before the 5-year date, or no such training was reasonably available but*

*2. that course was then cancelled,*

*then the Board will not immediately revoke the Licence due to failure to comply with the 'refresher training' rules, but the Licence Holder must still get 'refresher training', so (no later than one year after the date when he/she would under normal circumstances have to give the Board evidence of 'refresher training') he/she must do two things:*

*1. get a 'refresher training' certificate, and*

*2. send the Board a copy.*

*If the Licence Holder does both these things, the Board will not revoke the Licence.*

*If the Licence Holder does neither, or only one, the Board will have no choice but to revoke the Licence."*

The legislation applying to your Licence is the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005. The 'refresher training' rules are in Section 87. This is on a Government Internet website:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2005/16/contents>

## "My Personal Licence will expire soon. What do I do?"

You should apply for renewal now. If you do this before your Licence expires, the emergency rules mean that your Licence continues for an extra 6 months past its Expiry date.

The emergency rules mean that you can apply for renewal right up to the last day of your Licence, and if you apply before the Expiry Date your existing Licence lasts an extra 6 months.

Download an Application form from our website

Print it, scan it on computer as a PDF file, and email it to ***licensing@eastlothian.gov.uk***

If you have a training certificate, include a scan of this (if you don't have a training certificate, see the next question).

See Paragraph 1.4 above for information about paying the fee.

## "I don't have a training certificate. What do I do?"

You should still apply for renewal before your existing Licence expires. If you do that then the emergency rules mean that your existing Licence stays in force for 6 months after its Expiry Date.

We can't grant the renewal application until we see one of these qualifications:

- Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders.

- The Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders (Refresher)

If you can book a training course, check the course leads to one of these.

If you can't book a training course, your Licence will expire after the extra 6 months.

# 6. Alcohol: Occasional Licences

## "I have an Occasional Licence for an event. Can it still take place?"

No.

The Law was changed on 26 March 2020. Because of the "Emergency Period", it is now illegal for anyone to be in a gathering in a public place of more than eight people. There are a few exceptions, but none of these are likely to cover the event you wanted an Occasional Licence for.

The exceptions include:

- gatherings where all the persons in the gathering are members of no more than two households (until the rules were changed on 29th May 2020, this exception only covered people from the same household)

- funerals (interments and cremations – not post-event gatherings).

If none of the exceptions apply, anyone involved can be prosecuted and faces fines of up to £10,000. Also, the Police can issue on-the-spot fines of £60.

The Law is in Regulation 6 of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020.

## "I had a Licence for an event, but I had to cancel it because of COVID-19. I plan to re-schedule the event for later. Can I get a refund of the Licence Fee or can I credit the fee I've already paid against the fee for my next Licence?"

No. If you want to operate on a different date you will have to apply for a second Licence, and you will have to pay a second fee.

# 7. Tattoo and/or Skin Piercing

## "I have a Tattoo and/or Skin Piercing business. Can I stay open?

No. You must close during the "Emergency Period" (see Part 1.1). If you open:

- you can be prosecuted and face a fine of up to £10,000

- the Police can issue on-the-spot fines of £60

- the Council might issue a Prohibition Notice or revoke or suspend your Licence

The Law is in Regulation 3(4) of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 No. 103. Your Premises are listed in Paragraph 16 of Schedule 1 to those Regulations.

# 8. Fairgrounds and Public Entertainment

## "I have a Public Entertainment Licence. Can I open?"

No.

The Law was changed on 26 March 2020. Because of the COVID-19 Emergency, it is now illegal for anyone to be in a gathering in a public place of more than eight people. There are a few exceptions, but none of these cover this.

Anyone involved can be prosecuted and faces fines of up to £10,000. Also, the Police can issue on-the-spot fines of £60.

The Law is in Regulations 3(4) and 6 of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020.

The activities prohibited by Schedule 1, Part 2 include:

*"19. Funfairs (whether outdoors or indoors)."*

## "I had a Licence for an event, but I had to cancel it because of COVID-19. I plan to re-schedule the event for later. Can I get a refund of the Licence Fee or can I credit the fee I've already paid against the fee for my next Licence?"

No. If you want to operate on a different date you will have to apply for a second Licence, and you will have to pay a second fee.

# 9. Markets

## "I have a Market Operator's Licence. Can I open?"

This depends on what you are selling. This is for two reasons:

(a) The Law says that 'outdoor markets' must close, unless they are selling food

(b) the stay-at-home rule.

(a) Outdoor Markets

The only stalls which may operate are those selling food.

Any other stalls must close during the "Emergency Period" (see Part 1.1). If you open:

- you can be prosecuted and face a fine of up to £10,000

- the Police can issue on-the-spot fines of £60

- the Council might issue a Prohibition Notice or revoke or suspend your Licence

The Law is in Regulation 3(4) of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. Your Premises are listed in Paragraph 21 of Schedule 1 to those Regulations. Schedule 1 lists Premises that have to close during the "Emergency Period" (see Part 1.1), including:

*"21. Outdoor markets (except for stalls selling food)."*

(b) the stay-at-home rule.

If you are not selling food, then both:

- you, and

- the customers you would be selling to,

would be breaking the Law. During the "Emergency Period" (see Part 1.1), no person may leave the place where they are living without "reasonable excuse". There are a few exceptions, such as

- to obtain basic necessities, including food and medical supplies;

- to take exercise

but the usual rule is that everyone should stay at home.

This is because of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020, Regulations 5(1), 8(4) and 8(5).

## "I had a Licence for an event, but I had to cancel it because of COVID-19. I plan to re-schedule the event for later. Can I get a refund of the Licence Fee or can I credit the fee I've already paid against the fee for my next Licence?"

No. If you want to operate on a different date you will have to apply for a second Licence, and you will have to pay a second fee.

# 10. Street Traders

## "I have a Street Trader's Licence. Can I work?"

This depends on whether or not you are selling food.

If you are selling food, you can work. If the only things you sell are not essential (for example, toys) you can't. This is for two reasons:

(a) The Law says that 'outdoor markets' must close, unless they are selling food

(b) the stay-at-home rule.

(a) Outdoor Markets

The only mobile shops or stalls which may operate are those selling food.

Any others must close during the "Emergency Period". If you open:

- you can be prosecuted and face a fine of up to £10,000

- the Police can issue on-the-spot fines of £60

- the Council might issue a Prohibition Notice or revoke or suspend your Licence

The Law is in Regulation 3(4) of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. Your Premises are listed in Paragraph 21 of Schedule 1 to those Regulations. Schedule 1 lists Premises that have to close during the "Emergency Period" (see Part 1.1), including:

*"21. Outdoor markets (except for stalls selling food)."*

(b) the stay-at-home rule.

If you are not selling food, then both:

- you, and

- the customers you would be selling to,

would be breaking the Law, with the same possible results (prosecution etc.). During the "Emergency Period" (see Part 1.1), no person may leave the place where they are living without "reasonable excuse".

There are a few exceptions, such as

- to obtain basic necessities, including food and medical supplies;

- to take exercise

but the usual rule is that everyone should stay at home.

This is because of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020, Regulations 5(1), 8(4) and 8(5).

# 11. Take-Away food shops

## "I have a Late Hours Catering Licence. Can I stay open to sell food?"

Yes., but you must follow 'social distancing' rules both inside your shop and outside it.

If you don't

- you can be prosecuted and face a fine of up to £10,000

- the Police can issue on-the-spot fines of £60

- the Council might issue a Prohibition Notice or revoke or suspend your Licence

You must take all reasonable measures to ensure that

(a) a distance of two metres is maintained between any persons on the premises (except between two members of the same household, or a Carer and the person assisted by the Carer),

(b) the premises only admit people in sufficiently small numbers to make it possible to maintain that distance,

(c) a distance of two metres is maintained between any person waiting to enter the premises (except between two members of the same household, or a Carer and the person assisted by the Carer).

The Law is in Regulation 4(3) of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020.

# 12. Window Cleaners

## "I have a Window Cleaner's Licence. Can I work?"

Yes, if you follow this Guidance:

(a) you have no coronavirus symptoms;

(b) you keep at least two metres from anyone on the Premises you are working on;

(c) you only work outside.

# 13. Caravans

## "Can I allow people who live in caravans BUT NOT AS THEIR USUAL HOMES stay on the site?"

No, unless the people have nowhere else to go.

If people have their homes somewhere else but use their caravan for holidays or as a 'second home', they should stay at their usual homes. If you, as the site operator, allow them to stay you are breaking the Law.

The Law is:

*"a person who is responsible for carrying on a business consisting of the provision of holiday accommodation, whether in a hotel, hostel, bed and breakfast accommodation, holiday apartment, home, cottage or bungalow, campsite, caravan park or boarding house, must cease to carry on that business".*

This is Regulation 4(4) of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 No. 103.

There are a few exceptions, such as where people use caravans as their main residence, or are otherwise homeless.

Apart from that, you must close during the Emergency. If you open:

- you can be prosecuted and face a fine of up to £10,000

- the Police can issue on-the-spot fines of £60

- the Council might issue a Prohibition Notice.

## "Can I allow people who live in caravans AS THEIR USUAL HOMES stay on the site?"

Yes. This is an exception to the usual rule. See the previous question for the usual rule.

# 14. Landlords and Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)

## "Can I still let tenants stay in my house?"

Yes.

## "Can I evict tenants who have Coronavirus?"

No. Even before the COVID-19 Emergency, a Landlord could only evict a tenant with an order from the "Housing and Property Chamber" of the "First Tier Tribunal". This still applies.

## "Can tenants stay in my house even if the tenants are not keeping up the rent?"

Yes. Even before the COVID-19 Emergency, a Landlord could only evict a tenant with an order from the "Housing and Property Chamber" of the "First Tier Tribunal". This still applies. The rules about this have been changed by the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020. You should speak to your Letting Agent or take independent legal advice.

## "Can I cut off services like electricity and water if the tenants are not keeping up the rent?"

No. This is against the Law and the Police could charge you.

# 15. Gambling

## "I have a Licence for a Bingo Premises, a Betting Shop or Amusement Arcade. Can I open?"

No. You must close during the "Emergency Period". If you open:

- you can be prosecuted and face a fine of up to £10,000

- the Police can issue on-the-spot fines of £60

- the Licensing Board might issue a Prohibition Notice or revoke or suspend your Licence

The Law is in Regulation 3(4) of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. Your Premises are listed in Schedule 1 to those Regulations:

Paragraph 8 - Bingo halls.

Paragraph 12 - Betting shops.

Paragraph 18 - bowling alleys, amusement arcades and other indoor leisure centres or facilities.

# 16. Animals

## "I have a Licence for Animals, such as a Riding Establishments Licence or an Animal Boarding Licence. Can I still open to the public?"

No. The public would be breaking the 'stay at home' rules. During the "Emergency Period" (see Part 1.1), no person may leave the place where they are living without "reasonable excuse".

There are a few exceptions, such as

- to obtain basic necessities, including food and medical supplies;

- to take exercise

but the usual rule is that everyone should stay at home.

This is because of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020, Regulations 5(1), 8(4) and 8(5).

You can look after animals that are in your care.

## "I have a Pet Shop. Can I stay open?"

Yes, but only for selling "basic necessities, including food and medical supplies"

This is because the Regulations include as 'basic necessities' not just supplies for humans but also supplies for 'pets or animals'.

The list of Premises which can stay open, as long as they maintain social distancing both inside and out, includes:

"Veterinary surgeons and pet shops."

This is because of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020, Regulation 4(1) and Schedule 1, Part 3, Paragraph 38.

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