



# Simple Guide: Key Updates in Section 182 Guidance (2025 Edition)

*This guide summarises the official Section 182 Guidance (Revised November 2025). For full legal detail, refer to the GOV.UK publication*

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## 1. Stronger Powers for Summary Reviews

The 2025 update reinforces how **fast-track reviews** work when the police believe a premises is linked to **serious crime or serious disorder**.

### Key points:

- Police can trigger a review quickly with a Superintendent's certificate.
- Licensing authorities must consider **interim steps within 48 hours**, including:
  - extra licence conditions
  - removing the DPS
  - suspending alcohol sales
  - full licence suspension
- Interim steps can take effect **immediately**.
- Licensing sub-committees can meet by phone / remotely to act quickly.

### What this means for venues:

If serious incidents happen (weapons, drugs, violence), authorities can act extremely fast and impose temporary restrictions before a hearing.

### What's different?

Previous versions explained summary reviews briefly.

The 2025 revision adds procedural detail, timelines, and stricter expectations for urgent action.

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## 2. Tougher Approach to Crime at Licensed Premises

The guidance makes it clear that licensing authorities should take **firm action** where crime is linked to premises.

### New emphasis:

- Reviews may arise from crime **not directly linked to alcohol sales**, such as drugs, money laundering, stolen goods, firearms or exploitation.
- Councils should not hesitate to **revoke licences** if problems continue.
- Removal of a DPS may not be enough if the root issue is company policy or culture.

### What's different?

The earlier version focused mainly on alcohol-related crime.

The 2025 update broadens the scope to any serious criminality connected to the premises.

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### 3. Clarified Rules on Regulated Entertainment

Large updates appear in Chapter 16 — important for pubs, bars, clubs and events.

#### Live & Recorded Music

- No licence needed 08:00–23:00 (conditions apply).
- Conditions relating to music are **suspended** 08:00–23:00 where alcohol is authorised and audience limits are met.
- Licensing authorities can still **impose or reinstate** conditions if problems arise (noise, disorder).

#### Other entertainment updates include:

- Travelling circuses: clearer exemption rules.
- Indoor sport only licensable before 08:00 or after 23:00, or over 1000 spectators.
- Recorded music remains licensable outside permitted times or with large audiences.

#### What's different?

This section has been reorganised and expanded to reduce confusion—older versions were scattered and unclear.

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### 4. Early Morning Alcohol Restriction Orders (EMROs)

More details on when and how EMROs can be used.

#### Key points:

- EMROs can ban alcohol sales between **midnight and 6am** in problem areas.
- They are meant to address **recurring, serious late-night issues**.
- They override all authorisations except New Year's Eve.

#### What's different?

Old guidance mentioned EMROs only briefly.

The new version gives step-by-step clarity.

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## 5. Updated Advice on Applications & Electronic Submissions

Clearer rules for online applications, especially through GOV.UK.

### Important updates:

- Electronic applications count as "given" on the day the council receives the GOV.UK notification.
- Councils must acknowledge applications quickly and follow strict timelines.
- Applicants no longer need to send copies to responsible authorities when applying online.

### What's different?

Older guidance barely covered digital submission.

2025 version reflects modern online systems.

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## 6. Personal Licence Clarifications

Useful for operators employing personal licence holders.

### Highlights:

- Personal licences remain valid indefinitely and do not expire.
- Police may object to a DPS application only in **exceptional circumstances** linked to crime prevention.
- Licensing authorities can request more information on management arrangements for community premises.

### What's different?

Earlier guidance had outdated references to renewal and made DPS objections seem more common.

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## 7. Stronger Emphasis on Licensing Objectives

Reinforcement that the four objectives remain paramount:

- Crime & disorder
- Public safety
- Public nuisance
- Protection of children from harm

Operators must show how their venue actively supports these objectives.

## What's different?

Earlier versions were less explicit.

The new version expects more proactive risk management from venues.

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## 8. Counter-terrorism & Safety (Annex)

There is a new emphasis on security for events and venues.

- **Licensing authorities may look closely at safety plans for large events.**

## What's different?

This reflects current national safety concerns and was not emphasised in older versions.

## In One Sentence:



The 2025 Section 182 update gives councils and police **stronger, faster powers** to deal with problem premises, clarifies entertainment deregulation, tightens crime-related expectations, and modernises applications and compliance.