



## Drugs Policy

### Date Created:

### Expected Standards

ANTIX operates a **zero-tolerance approach** to the possession, use, or supply of illegal drugs or psychoactive substances on the premises. The venue will take all reasonable steps to prevent drug-related activity and will not knowingly permit such activity to take place.

This policy supports the four licensing objectives:

- Prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- Prevention of public nuisance
- Protection of children from harm

### 1. Legal Context

This policy is informed by:

- The **Misuse of Drugs Act 1971**, particularly Section 8, which places a duty on licensees and staff to prevent drug-related activity on licensed premises.
- The **Psychoactive Substances Act 2016**, covering substances often referred to as “legal highs”.

All controlled drugs and psychoactive substances will be treated in the same manner under this policy.

### 2. Communication of the Policy

The zero-tolerance drugs policy will be communicated to customers by:

- Clear signage at entrances and throughout the venue
- Search and zero-tolerance notices
- Staff and security presence reinforcing expectations through visible enforcement

### 3. Entry Searches and Refusal of Entry

- After **22:00**, or whenever door supervisors are on duty, all customers will be searched.
- Searches should include **outer clothing, pockets, and bags** and will be carried out by **SIA-licensed door supervisors**, where possible of the same sex.
- **Metal detecting wands** will be used as part of the search procedure.
- Any customer **refusing a search** when requested will be **refused entry**.
- Any person appearing to be **under the influence of drugs** will be refused entry.

### 4. Drugs Found on Persons

- Where a **small quantity** of drugs consistent with personal use is found, the substance will be seized and secured, and the individual will be **refused entry or removed from the premises**.
- Where the quantity or circumstances indicate **possession with intent to supply**, or where dealing is suspected, the **Police will be contacted immediately** and the individual may be detained in a safe manner pending their arrival.

### 5. Drugs Found Within the Premises

- Any drugs found inside the venue where no owner can be identified must be **handed immediately to the Duty Manager**.

- The substance will be placed in the **locked drugs receptacle**, recorded appropriately, and arrangements made with the **Police for collection**.

## 6. Storage and Record Keeping

- All seized drugs will be placed in a **locked receptacle** set aside for this purpose.
- Access to the receptacle will be retained by the **Premises Licence Holder, DPS, or another responsible person**.
- A record of all seizures will be maintained in a **bound drugs seizure log**, recording:
  - Date and time
  - Description of item
  - Location found or seized
  - Staff involved
  - Whether Police were contacted
- The log will be made available to **Police or authorised officers** upon request.

## 7. Staff Responsibilities

- All staff must remain **alert to signs of drug use or dealing** and report concerns immediately to security or the Duty Manager.
- Staff must **not confront or search** customers unless trained and authorised to do so.
- Staff must not knowingly permit drug-related activity and must take **reasonable steps to intervene or report concerns**.

## 8. Welfare and Safety

- Where a customer is suspected to be under the influence of drugs, staff should:
  - Stop alcohol service
  - Inform management
  - Provide calm reassurance and access to water
  - Monitor for signs of medical distress
- Emergency services must be called immediately if there are visible signs of serious medical risk.

## 9. Door Security Responsibilities

- Enforce the search policy and refuse entry where appropriate.
- Monitor **high-risk areas**, including toilets, stairwells, corners, and fire exits.
- Seize and secure drugs in accordance with venue procedures.
- Record and report all drug-related incidents.

## 10. Management Responsibilities

- Ensure staff are trained and aware of this policy
- Maintain oversight of incident logs and seizure records
- Liaise with Police and Licensing Authorities where required
- Ensure CCTV, signage, and physical controls support the drugs policy

## 11. Review

This policy will be **reviewed regularly** and updated as required to reflect operational experience, licensing conditions, and best practice.

\*This Policy is published on our website ([www.barantix.com](http://www.barantix.com))