



Weapons policy

Date Created:

Expected Standards

There are 4 licensing objectives of equal importance:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of children from harm

Due to the unfortunate rising levels of weapons used (in particular knives & sharp objects) in our city, ANTIX has adopted a mandatory search policy for all customers aligning with our licensing objectives.

It is the duty of the Premises Licence Holder and DPS to create a safer environment for customers and staff and uphold the licensing objectives especially in relation to prevention of crime and disorder and public safety when considering offensive weapons.

The legal definition of an offensive weapon is **“any article made or adapted for use for causing injury to the person or intended by the person having it with him for such use by him or by another”**. It is an offence for any person to have in their possession in a public place a bladed or sharply pointed article; a bladed article excludes a folding pocketknife with a blade cutting edge not exceeding 3 inches.

In performing their duties, the Door Supervisors should prevent customers entering the premises with any article they consider could be used as a weapon to cause injury to another person. This will include knives of any description; knuckle-dusters, clubs, coshes, any article made with a blade or sharp edge, certain tools such as Stanley knives, wood chisels, scissors and gas sprays, firearms, replica guns, etc.

Door Supervisors should never retain any weapon; all offensive weapons should be transferred immediately to the manager/ another responsible member of staff for safe storage in a secure place until they are handed over to the Police and ensure all details are recorded carefully in the incident log and weapons log.

Dissemination of Policy to Staff

Managers and supervisors have a responsibility to make known to all existing and new staff (at their induction) the existence of their policy and advise staff what their responsibilities are in relation to it, including where relevant the search and seizure procedures of weapons.

Prevention of people with weapons from entering the premises

Premises License Holder and DPS have a duty to prevent people with weapons from entering the premises in order to protect staff and other customers.

- After 22:00 or whenever door supervisors are on duty (except when the premises is hired exclusively for a private party- where door staff will be risk assessed) The Premises License Holder shall ensure that the DPS, or in his/her absence other responsible person shall ensure that the outer clothing, pockets and bags of those entering the premises are searched by door security personnel (where possible) of the same sex, in cases where there is reasonable suspicion that drugs, defined as Class 1 or Class 2

controlled substances under the Misuse of Drugs Act, or weapons are being carried. Metal detecting wands will be used as part of the search procedure and parties refusing to submit to a search when asked will be refused entry. In such cases where controlled substances or weapons are found the Premises License Holder shall ensure that the DPS, or in his/her absence other responsible person may inform the Police in order that they may take any necessary action.

- Customers will be made aware of the venue search policy at entrance.
- The Policy for searching customers for weapons shown prominently at the entrance.
- Any items found should be stored in a secure storage area and recorded before they are handed to the Police.
- Arrangements should be made for the Police to collect the items when possible.
- Should the metal detector be activated and the customer refuses to identify the metal object, Door Supervisors should use their own judgement and the circumstances to determine if Police need to be notified.

- **This policy is published on our website (www.barantix.com)**