

## Information for businesses

# Storage and sale of fireworks

**The Pyrotechnical Articles (Safety) Regulations 2015**  
**Firework Regulations 2004**  
**The Explosives Regulations 2014**

### Have you:-

- Obtained a licence to store fireworks for this year?
- Carried out your risk assessment for the premise where you intend storing Fireworks?
- Checked the retail floor area to ensure you do not exceed your registered/licensed limit for explosives?
- Got your notice displayed reminding customers about the law that states:

**It is illegal to supply category F2 fireworks or category F3 fireworks to anyone under the age of 18 and**

**It is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to possess category F2 fireworks or category F3 fireworks in a public place.**

- Cleared an area to store your fireworks safely (for more information see <http://www.hse.gov.uk/explosives/fireworks/industry.htm> ).
- Got any fireworks labelled 1.3G? If so contact Alison Richardson on 07773 791271

There is a curfew banning the use of fireworks after 11:00pm and before 7:00am. The curfew is extended to midnight on 5<sup>th</sup> Nov and 1:00am on New Year's Eve, Diwali and the Chinese New Year. It is your responsibility to ensure you are aware of, and comply with the regulations.

A licence permits you to sell fireworks during the following periods of the year:

- 15<sup>th</sup> October to 10<sup>th</sup> November
- 26<sup>th</sup> December to 31<sup>st</sup> December
- On the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the Chinese New Year and the 3 days immediately preceding it
- On the day of Diwali and the 3 days immediately preceding it

If you plan to sell outside of these periods then you will need a licence to comply with the Firework Regulations 2004. Please contact Staffordshire Trading Standards for more information.

**If you don't comply with these rules you could be fined £5,000 or imprisoned for 6 months**

## **Remember**

- Boxes of fireworks must not be split and sold separately.
- All fireworks for the public must comply with EN15947 or if on the market prior to July 2010 the British Standard BS 7114.
- It is an offence to possess category 4 fireworks (professional display fireworks) by anyone other than a firework professional.
- There is a curfew on firework use between 11 pm and 7 am (in line with the Noise Act 1996), with the exception of certain specified nights (see below).
- There is a maximum decibel limit of 120 decibels for fireworks.
- You must not sell fireworks to anyone who is under 18
- You must not sell caps, cracker snaps, novelty matches, party poppers, serpents and throw downs to anyone who is under 16.
- Christmas crackers should not be sold to anyone under 12 years of age.
- Sparklers should have the statement 'Warning: not to be given to children under 5 years of age'

## **CE Marking of Explosives**

Since 4<sup>th</sup> July 2017 all fireworks have to comply with the labelling requirements of the Pyrotechnic Articles (Safety) Regulations 2015.

If your products do not have a CE mark on the labelling then they will not comply with the regulations and CANNOT be supplied after 4<sup>th</sup> July 2017.

Any product found on site after 4<sup>th</sup> July 2017 without a CE mark will be prohibited from sale and you may be prosecuted.

Disposal of non-compliant products must be done by yourselves through authorised routes. Your supplier may be able to help you with this.

Staffordshire County Council and Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service will not be able to dispose of pyrotechnics for you.

## **Further business advice and information can be obtained from:**

Staffordshire County Council, Public Protection, Trading Standards

2 Staffordshire Place,

Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH

Tel: 0300 111 8000

Minicom: 01785 276207

Email: [businessadvice@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:businessadvice@staffordshire.gov.uk)

Or visit our website at: <http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/business/tradingstandards/>

**All of our information leaflets are available in a range of formats and languages, including Braille and large print. If this would be useful to you or someone you know, please contact us.**