# Trading Standards business advice – regulatory needs assessment

1. This document is intended to assist start-ups or new businesses identify which areas of consumer law may apply to their business.
2. In many cases we hope that this will be sufficient to enable businesses to start trading legally without further guidance.
3. Where additional guidance is required a fixed fee guidance and advice package is available. Please contact us for further details.
4. Additional guidance will only be provided once the check list is completed. After reading the guidance, please identify which areas of law require clarification. This will help us focus our guidance and maximise the best use of the 5 hours available.
5. These links are being provided for informational purposes only; they do not constitute an endorsement or an approval by Worcestershire County Council of any of the products, services or opinions of the corporation or organisation or individual expressed therein. Worcestershire CC bears no responsibility for the accuracy, legality, or content of the external site or for that of subsequent links. Contact the external site for answers to questions regarding its content.
6. This document is not designed to be a replacement for professional advice and is intended only for guidance. Only the courts can give an authoritative interpretation of the law.
7. Whilst we do not endorse or recommend any content [Home | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/) is provided government backed impartial advice.
8. Information about why the Trading Standards Service may collect your personal information, what we do with it, and what your rights are concerning it can be found at [Data protection and privacy | Trading Standards - About Us | Worcestershire County Council](https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20900/trading_standards_services_in_worcestershire/2444/trading_standards_-_about_us/3).

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| **Legal entity (sole trader, partnership, or limited company)’** |  |
| **Trading Address** |  |
| **Registered office address if applicable** |  |
| **Tel. Number** |  |
| **Email address** |  |
| **Website address** |  |
| **Business contact name** |  |
| **Tel. Number** |  |
| **Email address** |  |
| **Details of any trade associations or certification schemes** |  |

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|  | **Self-help and guidance are available from the following sources.** | **After your initial research do you have any further questions or require more additional guidance?** |
| 1. **Forming your business. Do you intend to trade as a limited company, sole trader, or partnership?** | [Home | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/)  [Company registration and filing: Starting a company - detailed information - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/topic/company-registration-filing/starting-company)  [Company and business names | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/miscellaneous/company-and-business-names) |  |
| 1. **Where do you intend to trade from? Do you need planning permission?** | [Planning permission: When you need it - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/planning-permission-england-wales)  [Running a business from home - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/run-business-from-home) |  |
| 1. **Do you need to register or require a license?** | [Quick Guides | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides)  [In-depth Guides | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/in-depth-guides) | Read the quick guides first. Only read the in-depth guidance if you are sure it applies to your business. |
| * 1. Food | [Food business registration - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/food-business-registration) |  |
| * 1. Disposal of food waste | [How food businesses must dispose of food and former foodstuffs - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/how-food-businesses-must-dispose-of-food-and-former-foodstuffs) |  |
| * 1. Selling alcohol | [Alcohol licensing - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/alcohol-licensing) |  |
| * 1. Dog breeding establishments | [Dog breeding licence (England) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/dog-breeding-licence-england) |  |
| * 1. Boarding for cats and dogs | [Boarding for cats or dogs licence (England) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/boarding-for-cats-or-dogs-licence-england) |  |
| * 1. Pet shops | [Selling animals as pets licence (England) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/selling-animals-as-pets-licence-england) |  |
| * 1. Consumer credit | <https://www.gov.uk/offering-credit-consumers-law> |  |
| * 1. Storage of explosives or firework | [HSE Explosives - Applying for a licence](https://www.hse.gov.uk/explosives/licensing/how-to-apply.htm) |  |
| * 1. Petroleum storage | [Petroleum Storage Licence (England, Scotland and Wales) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/petroleum-storage-licence) |  |
| * 1. Street Traders License | [Street trading licence (England and Wales) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/street-trading-licence) |  |
| 1. **Employers’ liability** | [Employers’ Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969: A guide for employers HSE40](https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/hse40.PDF) |  |
| 1. **If you propose to grow, sell, prepare, manufacture, or import food, are you aware of the rules relating to food labelling and hygiene?** | [Packaging and labelling | Food Standards Agency](https://www.food.gov.uk/business-guidance/packaging-and-labelling)  [Business guidance | Food Standards Agency](https://www.food.gov.uk/)  [Home | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/)  [Food hygiene for farmers and growers | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/food-and-drink/food-hygiene-for-farmers-and-growers)  [EU Food Labelling – Brexit Information (brexitlegalguide.co.uk)](http://brexitlegalguide.co.uk/eu-food-labelling/) |  |
| 1. **If you propose to sell, prepare, manufacture, or import animal feeding stuffs, are you aware of the rules relating labelling and hygiene?** | [Starting an animal feed business | Food Standards Agency](https://www.food.gov.uk/business-guidance/starting-an-animal-feed-business)  [Mixing feed on-farm | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/animals-and-agriculture/mixing-feed-on-farm)  [Feed Businesses - Worcestershire Trading Standards (worcestershirets.gov.uk)](http://www.worcestershirets.gov.uk/applications-licences/feed-business.aspx)  [Feed hygiene for transporters and hauliers - Annex I.xps (businesscompanion.info)](https://www.businesscompanion.info/sites/default/files/Feed%20hygiene%20for%20transporters%20and%20hauliers_ALL_183_2005_ANNEX1_DEC13.pdf)  [Raw pet food for direct sale or animal by-products to be fed to fur animals to, or transit through, the European Union and Northern Ireland: certificate 8306 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/export-health-certificates/export-raw-pet-food-for-direct-sale-or-animal-by-products-to-be-fed-to-fur-animals-to-or-transit-through-the-european-union-certificate-8306)  [Animal Feed – Brexit Information (brexitlegalguide.co.uk)](http://brexitlegalguide.co.uk/animal-feed/) |  |
| 1. **If you propose to sell, manufacture, or import fertilisers?** | [Manufacturing and marketing fertilisers - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/manufacturing-and-marketing-fertilisers)  [AIC | Legislation and Guidance (agindustries.org.uk)](https://www.agindustries.org.uk/sectors/fertiliser/resources/legislation-and-guidance-listing.html)  [Fertilisers Regulation 2021 UK Guidance – Brexit Information (brexitlegalguide.co.uk)](http://brexitlegalguide.co.uk/fertilisers-regulation-2021-uk-guidance/) |  |
| 1. **The following legislative areas may affect your business depending on what you manufacture, import, sell or the service you provide;** | [Quick Guides | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides)  [In-depth Guides | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/in-depth-guides) | Read the quick guides first. Only read the in-depth guidance if you are sure it applies to your business. |
| 1. Product safety | [Product safety | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/product-safety)  [Candlemakers Advice Pack (britishcandles.org)](http://www.britishcandles.org/documents/www.britishcandles.org/Trading_Standards/candlesadvicepack(2020).pdf)  [CTPA - the Cosmetic, Toiletry and Perfumery Association](https://www.ctpa.org.uk/)  [Electrical Safety First - The UK's Electrical Safety Experts](https://www.electricalsafetyfirst.org.uk/)  Importing goods from China?  SPEAC is short for “Safe non-food consumer Products in the EU and China”.  SPEAC is an information and training programme designed to help Chinese manufacturers sell safely to the EU.  [SPEAC – Safe non-food consumer Products in the EU and China (speac-project.eu)](https://speac-project.eu/) |  |
| 1. Describing goods and services | [Accurate descriptions | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/good-practice/accurate-descriptions) |  |
| 1. Pricing and offers | [Pricing and payment | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/pricing-and-payment) |  |
| 1. Selling goods via the internet or mail order (Distance selling) | [Distance sales | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/distance-sales) |  |
| 1. Weights and Measures | [Weights and measures | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/weights-and-measures) |  |
| 1. Trademarks and counterfeiting | [Intellectual property: Trade marks - detailed information - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/topic/intellectual-property/trade-marks) |  |
| 1. Design and Copyright | [Intellectual property: Copyright - detailed information - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/topic/intellectual-property/copyright)  [Intellectual property: Designs - detailed information - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/topic/intellectual-property/designs) |  |
| 1. Unfair Trading | <https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/good-practice/consumer-protection-from-unfair-trading> |  |
| 1. Age restricted products    * 1. Alcohol      2. Tobacco products      3. Fireworks      4. Solvents      5. Knives      6. Video games      7. Corrosive substances      8. Botox      9. Sun beds   Note: This is not an exhaustive list of age restricted products or services. | [Underage sales | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/underage-sales)  [acs\_assured\_advice\_-\_e-cigarettes\_2022.pdf](https://www.acs.org.uk/sites/default/files/acs_assured_advice_-_e-cigarettes_2022.pdf) |  |
| 1. Protecting your intellectual property. | [Intellectual property and your work: Protect your intellectual property - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/intellectual-property-an-overview/protect-your-intellectual-property) |  |
| 1. Home Improvement Services (builders, roofers, gas and electrical work). If your business is in home improvements, you should be aware of the following: | [Off-premises sales | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/off-premises-sales)  [Consumer contracts: off-premises sales | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/off-premises-sales/consumer-contracts-off-premises-sales) | Read the quick guides first. Only read the in-depth guidance if you are sure it applies to your business. |
| 1. Consumer Contracts off trade premises | [Consumer contracts: off-premises sales | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/off-premises-sales/consumer-contracts-off-premises-sales) |  |
| 1. Supply of services | [The supply of services | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/services/the-supply-of-services) |  |
| 1. Sale and supply of goods and services | [The sale and supply of goods | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/goods/the-sale-and-supply-of-goods)  [Mixed contracts | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/consumer-contracts/mixed-contracts) |  |
| 1. Membership logos and claims | [Membership logos and claims of approval | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/node/461/mid/1677) |  |
| 1. Unfair trading | [Consumer protection from unfair trading | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/good-practice/consumer-protection-from-unfair-trading) |  |
| 1. Gas installations | [Gas Safe Register - The Official List of Gas Safe Registered Businesses - Gas Safe Register has replaced CORGI registration. Don't cut corners, only use a Gas Safe registered engineer.](https://www.gassaferegister.co.uk/) |  |
| 1. Electrical installations | [NICEIC | Join our schemes and be recognised for the work you do](https://www.niceic.com/join-us?utm_source=Google&utm_medium=CPC&utm_campaign=TMC&gclid=EAIaIQobChMIz8mm4YG09wIVzcLtCh1qVg-yEAAYASAAEgKom_D_BwE)  [Elecsa - Welcome to ELECSA](http://www.elecsa.co.uk/)  [How to Join | NAPIT](https://www.napit.org.uk/join-napit/how-to-join-napit.aspx)  [Blue Flame - Home (blueflamecertification.com)](https://www.blueflamecertification.com/) |  |
| 1. Bio mass and solid fuel appliances | [HETAS | Working together for a cleaner safer environment](https://www.hetas.co.uk/) |  |
| 1. Liquid fuel heating storage, appliance, and supply | [OFTEC Home | Oil, Solid Fuel and Renewable Heating Technologies](https://www.oftec.co.uk/) |  |
| 1. Websites |  |  |
| It is important that your online business is compliant, this means ensuring your website is compliant with the relevant regulations. There are specific requirements laid down in several regulations that will be relevant to your online business. | [Consumer contracts: distance sales | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/distance-sales/consumer-contracts-distance-sales)  [Consumer Rights Act: Goods - Guidance for Business (businesscompanion.info)](https://www.businesscompanion.info/sites/default/files/CRA-Goods-Guidance-for-Business-Sep-2015.pdf)  [Company and business names | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/miscellaneous/company-and-business-names)  [Consumer contracts: distance sales | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/distance-sales/consumer-contracts-distance-sales)  [Consumer contracts: distance sales | Business Companion](https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/distance-sales/consumer-contracts-distance-sales)  [Guide to Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations | ICO](https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-pecr/) |  |
| 1. Where else can I get help? |  |  |
| 1. There is a huge amount of help available to businesses. | [Support for Businesses | Worcestershire County Council](https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20278/support_for_businesses)  [Get help and support for your business - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/business-support-helpline)  [Make an Appointment | FSB](https://membership.fsb.org.uk/virtual-meeting-a/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMI3YzqmbWJ-AIVxud3Ch01OgYLEAAYASAAEgJla_D_BwE)  [Finance and support for your business - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/business-finance-support)  [What support is available for my small business? - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/what-support-is-available-for-my-small-business) |  |
| 1. Trade and business associations will keep you up to date in developments in your profession or trade. | [List of small business associations and networking groups - Small Business UK](https://smallbusiness.co.uk/list-of-small-business-associations-and-networking-groups-2552998/)  [Advice | ACS](https://www.acs.org.uk/advice) |  |
| 1. If you trade or operate across local authority boundaries joining Trading Standards in a Primary Authority Partnership may be of benefit to your business. | [About Primary Authority | Trading Standards - Primary Authority | Worcestershire County Council](https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20901/trading_standards_business_advice/2435/trading_standards_-_primary_authority) |  |
| 1. If you work in the home improvement sector you could consider joining our local approved trader scheme | Insert link when available |  |

**Contact Us**

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