

## **RELIEF FOR PUBLIC HOUSES**

The Licensing Act 2003 (Consequential Amendment) (Non-Domestic Rating) ( Public Houses in England) Order 2006 No591 defines a public house as “ any premises in respect of which there is in force a premises licence under the 2003 Act authorising the retail sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises or for consumption on or off the premises”.

Officers would recommend adoption of the following definition loosely based on CAMRA's definition of a pub:

The licensed premises must be open to and welcome the general public without requiring membership or residency, allow free entry, allow drinking without requiring food to be consumed and permit drinks to be consumed in person at the bar without relying on table service.

Bars attached to sports and leisure centres, cinemas, theatres etc., could qualify provided they are open to the general public and not restricted to users of the particular facilities.

Hotel bars would qualify provided they are open to, and welcome, non-residents.

This definition would exclude the following establishments:

- Clubs with membership restrictions
- Bars with entry fees
- Establishments only offering table service
- Restaurants
- Off licences.

(END)