

# **Trading Standards Information Leaflet Licensed Premises**

## **Introduction**

Metal tankards, jugs or pitchers may be used but must also be approved.

Beer measuring instruments automatically dispense a ½ pint etc. If these are used there is no requirement to serve in approved glasses but the instrument itself must be approved equipment.

### **Gin, Rum, Whisky & Vodka**

or multiples thereof. **You cannot use both 25ml and 35ml in the same premises.** Where equipment is used to determine the correct measure it must be measuring equipment (e.g. optics).

Where an approved capacity measure is used to pour the correct amount of spirit into a glass, the customer must be able to see this being done. The capacity measure must be filled **fully to the brim**, before decanting into a glass for serving.

Approved measuring equipment will usually consist of devices placed in mounted inverted bottles. These are commonly referred to as Optics<sup>®</sup>. These automatically dispense a pre-determined quantity which must be clearly marked on the instrument.

Whichever method is used, a notice must be displayed in the premises stating in what quantity these spirits are sold. A suitable example is shown below and it should be placed where customers can easily see it before buying.

<p><b>Weights and Measures Act 1985</b> Gin, rum, vodka and whisky are sold for consumption on these premises in quantities of 25ml</p>
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These quantity requirements do not apply if a customer expressly requests a different quantity as part of any mixture of liquids. Neither do they apply if any of the spirits form a constituent in a mixture of three or more liquids, for example in a cocktail.

### **Wine**

When wine is sold by the glass, it may only be sold in quantities of 125ml, 175ml or multiples thereof. Where any items are used to determine the correct measure they must be of an approved type, i.e. approved glasses, approved

Approved wine serving glasses will be of the lined type. These are oversized and the measure is denoted by a line near the top of the glass adjacent to the quantity marking.

Approved wine measuring equipment will usually consist of the type commonly referred to as Optics<sup>®</sup>. These automatically dispense a pre-determined quantity which must be clearly marked on the instrument

Where an approved capacity measure is used to dispense the correct amount of wine into a glass the customer must be able to see this being done. The capacity measure must be filled **fully to the brim**, before decanting into a glass for serving.

Whichever method is used a notice must be displayed in the premises stating in what quantities wine by the glass is sold. A suitable example is shown below and it should be placed where customers can easily see it before buying.

<p><b>Weights and Measures Act 1985</b> Wine sold by the glass is sold in quantities of 125ml and 250ml</p>
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Alternatively, details can be given in every menu or wine list used prior to sale. These requirements do not cover wine that is pre-packed in a securely closed container before being served (i.e. a full bottle)

Where wine is sold in carafes which have been filled up from a bulk quantity, it may only be sold in quantities of 25cl (250ml), 50cl (500ml), 75cl (750ml) or 1 litre. Carafes, equipment or measures used to determine the quantity must be approved as detailed above

These requirements are detailed in regulations and orders made under the Weights and Measures Act 1985. Failure to comply could result in equipment being seized and prosecution. On conviction the courts may impose a fine of up to £2000 per offence.

## **Fair Trading**

### **Descriptions**

It is an offence under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008 to make a misleading claim about goods or services. If you describe a particular brand of product for sale, it must correspond with that description (e.g.



## **Training/Due Dilligence**

Most of the legislation which Trading Standards enforces, allows a defence to the criminal offences which may be committed. In order to use this defence, you must be able to show that you have taken ALL reasonable steps and exercised ALL due diligence to avoid the commission of the offence.

There are a number of things you could do to try and satisfy this requirement, most importantly ensuring that all of your staff are suitably trained and fully aware of the legal requirements. You should maintain records of training and renew and refresh this as and when required. In order to check whether the training is having the desired effect, you should monitor the work being carried out, or perform regular refresher training.

The information provided in this leaflet is for guidance only and is not an exhaustive list of requirements. If you would like further information or advice on any of the legal requirements listed here, please feel free to contact:

**Trading Standards aglnhmp)6h(28Tmpt-117n(28,D)2i28(Hca)6(21lendagnhm(D)2iG84 8Ncang**