

Street Trading and Takeaway Food: Social Distancing Guidance

The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) Regulations 2020 regulate the operation of non-essential businesses and govern how essential businesses should trade.

The Government has advised that food takeaways and delivery services can remain open and operational. This means customers can continue to visit takeaway food businesses, including mobile stalls and vehicles.

However, customers must not use any seating within or around takeaways when waiting for or consuming food and street traders must not allow groups to congregate around mobile vehicles to order and consume food.

As a food business operator it is your responsibility to ensure people do not congregate inside or around your premises, vehicle or unit. The food must be taken away and consumed at home or in their own vehicle.

When ordering, customers must be instructed to follow the government guidance on social distancing and keep 2 metres apart. Customers should order in advance or, if this is not possible, order then move away to a safe distance until the food is ready to be collected. If necessary during busy periods customers should be asked to queue, away from traffic, in the street.

You should also designate a low risk area for handover of the food. This should be well away from the kitchen area and at a distance from as many staff as possible. Staff handing over the food should place the food down and keep a sensible distance from the customer. This area should regularly be sanitised throughout the day and staff should wash their hands after each handover.

Everyone is instructed to comply with the rules issued by the government in relation to coronavirus, in order to protect both themselves and others.

Environmental Health, Licensing, Trading Standards and Police Officers will monitor compliance with these regulations. Businesses and individuals that breach them will be subject to legal sanctions including potentially unlimited fines.

For more information please see: <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/business/food-hygiene-and-health-and-safety/operating-a-food-delivery-and-takeaway-service>