



Professional Association of Self-Caterers UK

PASC UK NEWSLETTER

31 October 2023 Issue 185

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COMMENTARY

We have provided an update on the lobbying in England, and there is a commentary below on that, plus some media clips.

If you are on Business Rates you must take part in the petition below, to try and extend the 50% discount we are currently receiving.

We are publishing a Catalogue to make choosing the free Fire Action signs easier and that will be up on the website latest tomorrow. With 28 to choose from this has become much harder to sort, so a complete rethink has taken place.

An error, last week I said there was a consultation on Waste, what I missed was that it was closed, but it is possible still to feed into that, again see below for feedback and update on that consultation, and my apologies for the error.

Meanwhile we have another Fire Webinar this week, on Thursday at 1100, where we once again have the leading expert on fire doors, Steve Emery, helping us navigate through fire doors, and Paul Bray using example layouts to help you determine where fire doors are needed. Don't miss it if you have any questions on Fire Doors. See below.

Watch out for the nasty that is the potential new Furniture Regulations below, tip of the day is probably avoid mega discounted soft furnishings that are not fully compliant, as we won't be able to use them shortly.

As always, any questions please let us know. Best regards

Alistair

PASC UK ON THE ROAD AND IMPORTANT MEETINGS AHEAD

Over the coming weeks PASC UK will be presenting at the following events.

- 9th November Devon Farms AGM
- 15th November Tourism Alliance Board
- 21st November Farm Stay Conference (FS Members only)
- 28th November PASC UK Board Meeting
- 7th December Northumberland Members meeting in Alnwick. (Details to be confirmed)
- November or December Devon Members meeting (Details to be confirmed)
- January Cornwall Members Meeting (Details to be confirmed)
- 6th February. West Country Tourism Conference

PASC UK WEBINAR PROGRAMME FOR NOVEMBER 2023

We will be adding to the schedule below over coming weeks and there will doubtless be more of the subject of fire, especially when the imminent 'open plan' guidance comes out. More details soon....

This week we are announcing a second webinar on Fire Doors and a webinar to explain the PASC UK Buying Club particularly to New Member.

PASC UK ENGLAND AND WALES FIRE DOORS 2 WEBINAR

Thursday 2 November 2023

1100-1230

This Webinar will be recorded and placed in the Fire Safety Section of the PASC UK Website

This Webinar is to help try and provide further clarity on Fire Doors. We will be welcoming back the leading expert on Fire Doors, Steve Emery, as well as Paul Bray, the PASC UK retained Fire Expert.

During the webinar Historic doors, ledge and brace doors, nominal and notional fire doors will all be covered, as well as running through some example floor plans to help owners determine where Fire Doors may or may not be required. These will include single, two and three storey examples. There will be an opportunity for questions after the presentations.

Panel

- Paul Bray GIFireE: Fire Safety Consultant
- Steve Emery CMIFireE: Fire Safety Consultant
- Alistair Handyside: Chair PASC UK

You can register for the Webinar here:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ZikejJliTuiEypvH6PPl4w

Once registered we will send you a link to join the webinar.

PASC UK BUYING CLUB WEBINAR

Tuesday 7 November 2023

1100-1200

This meeting will be recorded and placed in the Webinar section of the PASC UK website.

An opportunity to join us and find out what the PASC UK Buying Club offers Members. From discounts at ScrewFix and B&Q to energy contracts and all in the middle including Fuel Discount Cards and credit card facilities for your business. There will be a Q&A after the short presentations.

Membership of the PASC UK Buying Club is free to Members and only requires the simplest registration. You can apply in advance here: <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/buying-club/>

Panel

- Gurvinder Patara. Managing Director PSG Procurement
- Voltshare EV Charger Case Study
- Alistair Handyside: Chair PASC UK
- +++ more to be announced

You can register for the Webinar here:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6ls7-jHRSz-SDahscSJZ5A

Once registered we will send you a link to join the meeting.

ENGLAND LOBBYING UPDATE



We have primarily been campaigning in England under the Great British Holiday banner. The work has been carried out in conjunction with Member partners and is focused in getting the right kind of Statutory Registration scheme in England and learning all the hard lessons from Scotland and Wales.

We want that scheme to provide accurate data on our sector **BEFORE** further planning interventions into our sector are legislated. So, evidence-based policy, not media frenzy about second homes data.

We asked for your support, and got it, the survey to provide data (see previous Newsletters) was one of the most successful to date with 1735 responses, providing excellent data. Thank you.

We also asked you to take part in a Petition, through the iParl software that we have embedded on the website. Again, a really good response with 1250 letters sent to MPs in support of the policy, and what was key here was that the vast majority of those letters hit the desks of key MPs in key Constituencies. Once again huge thanks.

As a result of the above we have been able to secure meetings since the campaign began with all the key departments, Ministers and numerous MPs up and down the country, and secured a dedicated Hospitality and Tourism APPG (All Party Parliamentary Group) meeting to provide Evidence last week.

The two most recent and key meetings are covered below.

DLUHC (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities).

This Department is leading on the Levelling Up Bill that is currently navigating its way through Parliament. The Bill covers the outcome of the recent Consultation into potential planning changes in England that would affect the self-catering/short term let sector. We may have more information on that next week.

We were able to express our concerns for certain aspects of some of the proposals. Once again able to show the awful impact that some of the measures, in extreme, are having in Wales and Scotland.

In our Consultation Response Guidance and in our own response, we said that should any planning changes come in, in particular what is called Article 4, (essentially a tool by which Councils may be able to limit further self-catering/short term rentals in a given area) should be evidence based (Statutory Registration Data, not current flawed data), cover the smallest possible area, possibly down to even a street, and that there would be an oversight of the process by the Secretary of State.

Our aim to stop maverick Councils running wild on an ill-informed basis clamping down on second homes.

We got a positive response on all counts, and also confirmation that there is nothing that is retrospective in nature.

There are still potential trip wires in what may come through this Bill, and that we will keep a close eye on. Particularly around new classes and how it may be possible to change class, we expect that it will be easy to revert to residential, but very difficult to change from residential to self-catering/short term rental.

We have some more information to provide the team at DLUHC and will keep abreast of the legislation as it weaves its way into legislation.

Tourism and Hospitality APPG (All Party Parliamentary Group) London 24 October

This meeting was Chaired by Simon Jupp MP, and the Secretariat was provided by UK Hospitality.



There were three short presentations giving evidence regarding Statutory Registration.

These came from UKH Hospitality, STAA and PASC UK. (To see PASC UK presentation see last week's Newsletter). There was a crowded room, which was really positive, and the questioning was robust and well thought through. We were able to answer the questions.

The sector was pretty much united on all the key aspects of the why's and wherefores of Statutory Registration, differing only at the margins.

We can therefore expect a straightforward report from the APPG on Statutory Registration for MPs shortly.

Post the APPG, your Chair was interviewed by the BBC and that is available to view on the Website at: <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/webinars/>

Full marks to those that spot the error made by Martin Oates, the BBC journalist 😊

The next morning, your Chair was interviewed by BBC Radio Cornwall and that can be found here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0ghx5x4> (From 1.43 to 1.49).

Both give short clips about why the scheme is important and ties in with Fire Regs and the requirement for a written Fire Risk Assessment from 1 October 2023.

IF YOU PAY BUSINESS RATES YOU MUST SIGN THIS

In March next year, the 50% discount applied to Business Rates bill for Hospitality comes to an end. This support, applied by both English and Welsh Governments has been a huge support to enable recovery for not just self-catering but the whole hospitality sector.

We are asking that the support continues for at least a further year. If you are paying Business Rates, and nearly all that have a holiday complex, or more than one property on site do, then just take part in this petition.

It's being run by UK Hospitality whom we work with really closely and rather than have a separate Petition are supporting this one. It really does only take a couple of minutes. Thanks.

<https://ukhospitality.eaction.org.uk/businessrates>

REMEMBER MASTERCANCEL? REMEMBER COTTAGESURE? IF SO, A MUST READ

We are going back in time for a moment here. During the Pandemic, many of the then current PASC UK Membership were Cottagesure Policy Holders and were told that the policy did not cover them for lockdown.

Many were SuperControl customers too, and SuperControl had a product called MasterCancel, which paid out to the owner of guests cancelled for nay reason. As a result, a large number of PASC UK Members opted for MasterCancel.

After the victory in the Supreme Court against RSA Cottagesure, owners were able to claim for loss of revenue, BUT RSA decided that only part of the MasterCancel Premium, (you had to sign an annual contract) could be claimed against ICOW (Increased costs of working).

Recognise any of this? If you do and were affected, then please let chair@pascuk.co.uk know, as we are commencing with a follow up to get the outstanding amounts and have engaged an expert to help with this.

You do need to be a Member and you will need to agree to the expert's terms. (Very reasonable, max 10% of recovered monies). More detail from Chair if applicable. chair@pascuk.co.uk

WASTE DISPOSAL – NEW SCHEME PROPOSED FOR ENGLAND FEEDBACK AND UPDATE

Last week we brought this to your attention, and lots of feedback, nearly all positive, in that it 'could' be a national English scheme, and that someone holidaying in another part of England might finally understand what to recycle and what bin it goes in.

As always, the detail is what will make or break a scheme like this, what goes in each bin needs to be consistent, and the colour of each bin needs to be consistent too. Luckily, we have time in England to press for consistency. This does not come in until March 2027. Whereas a more complex Welsh Scheme comes into effect next Spring.

You may have seen in the last week media coverage of the Government's plan for waste disposal in England. The new Government plan includes not just domestic waste - as reported in the media - but also waste from commercial premises, such as holiday lets.

This is similar to the scheme already coming into force in Wales.

Scheme for both households and commercial premises

The Government's plan is to bring in a simplified, national waste scheme, where all local authorities in England collect the same waste streams for composting and recycling.

There will be a system of three waste containers: dry recycling, food waste, and residual (non-recyclable), with garden waste collection as an optional extra for households.

Non-household premises - such as holiday lets - in England will need to adopt the same three main waste streams as households.

What does this mean for holiday lets in England?

At present, holiday let waste is normally managed through a commercial waste contract (either third party or local authority). Many suppliers of commercial waste services do not distinguish between different types of waste - it is all mixed in a single bag or bin.

Under the new arrangements, commercial waste services will need to collect waste using the same three categories as for households: dry recycling, food waste, and residual (non-recyclable).

You as the property owner will need to present your waste to your service provider in line with these categories. That of course means you will need to collect and store your waste on site in these categories.

How it will come into force?

There will be statutory regulations.

Implementation dates

Businesses will need to have these recycling streams in place by March 2025, except for micro-firms (fewer than 10 FTE employees), which need to have the scheme in place by March 2027.

Further information

The following document explains the detailed Government responses to the recent consultation, and the proposed scheme details for England. It also provides a timeline for rollout across England:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consistency-in-household-and-business-recycling-in-england/outcome/government-response>

Please send any questions or comments you may have on this to louise@pascuk.co.uk

UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE FIRE REGULATIONS – PROPOSED NEW SCHEME OCTOBER 2023

The Government is currently considering updating the upholstered furniture regulations, which date from 1988.

In the new scheme, there will be items specifically included in the new regulations, and an excluded list. Some of those inclusions and exclusions are now based on the size of the item concerned e.g., pet beds, or scatter cushions.

Self-catering accommodation and holiday lets are classified as ‘supply-chain actors’ and/or ‘further suppliers’. This includes:

Landlords and letting agents who let out furnished accommodation. This includes holiday homes (Airbnb or similar).

The Consultation background document gives a definition of ‘further suppliers’:

“Further suppliers - Any other business involved in the supply of domestic upholstered furniture, not captured by the manufacturer or importer definitions, will be considered further suppliers’. Landlords and letting agents, including those letting holiday homes and those letting properties via Airbnb or similar, who are acting in the course of a business in letting a property within which furniture is included, will be treated as such.”

Manufacturers are being offered a transitional period of 18 months to 1 April 2026 in order to offload stock that is compliant with the old 1988 Regulations, but not compliant with the new Regulations. This is stock that they can sell - during that period - but which you - as a ‘supply-chain actor’ or ‘further supplier’ - should not buy, if it is for items moving from the old excluded list to the new included list. If you do so, these items fail to meet the new Regulations, on an ongoing basis.

Products now out of scope (excluded):

- (a) Bean bags with a surface area less than 10,800 cm²,
- (b) Floor cushions with a surface area less than 10,800 cm²,
- (c) Scatter cushions with: (i) width and height less than 45cm x 45cm, and (ii) with a surface area less than 4,050 cm²,

- (d) Seat pads with: (i) width and height less than 45cm x 45cm, and (ii) with a surface area less than 4,050 cm²,
- (e) Mattresses with width and height less than 75 cm x 190 cm,
- (f) Pet furniture with a surface area less than 10,800 cm²,
- (g) bedding, for example any pillow, duvet, quilt, weighted or other blanket, sleeping bag or mattress protector,
- (h) Floor coverings, for example carpets and mats, (i) Curtains, (j) Upholstered bed side barrier intended to be used to prevent a child falling out of bed, (k) upholstery intended to be used with baby furniture,
- (i) Moses baskets,
- (j) Bassinets,
- (k) Baby changing mats,
- (l) Carry cots,
- (m) Play pens,
- (n) Play mats,
- (o) Cot bumpers,
- (p) Baby nests, or
- (q) Baby rockers and bouncers

Products now in scope (included):

The following list of items are considered to be in scope:

- (a) Sofas
- (b) Armchairs
- (c) Sofa beds
- (d) Futons
- (e) Pouffes / Padded foot stools
- (f) Bean bags with a surface area 10,800 cm² or greater,
- (g) Floor cushions with a surface area 10,800 cm² or greater,
- (h) Scatter cushions with: (i) width and height 45cm x 45cm or greater, or (ii) with a surface area 4,050 cm² or greater, (i) Seat pads with:
 - (i) width and height 45cm x 45cm or greater, or (ii) with a surface area 4,050 cm² or greater,
 - (j) Mattresses with width and height 75 cm x 90 cm or greater,
 - (k) Pet beds with a surface area 10,800 cm² or greater,
 - (l) Divans / Upholstered bed bases
 - (m) Upholstered Bedsteads
 - (n) Headboards and footboards
 - (o) Mattress toppers
 - (p) Outdoor furniture (unless labelled as not to be used/ stored inside)

Please note that this list is not exhaustive and any product that meets the definition of an upholstered product, and is not listed as excluded from scope, will be judged to be in scope.

As you will see, there are a number of items which are now included or excluded based on size, not on item type. There also seems to be a printing error re mattresses (the two lists provide contradictory information).

Pre-1 January 1950 furniture:

The same rules are proposed to apply as previously. No change.

Implementation:

The new approach will take effect on 1 October 2024. Manufacturers will continue to sell old stock, which may not comply with the new Regulations, up to 1 April 2026. You should avoid buying items that have moved to the 'included' list if they do not comply with the new regulations (i.e. manufacturers offloading non-compliant stock).

Contact:

While the consultation closed on 24th October, you should still be able to submit your comments to: furniturefire.safety@beis.gov.uk

Further resources:

To see the background and questions relating to upholstered furniture:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/64ff3c5c57e8840013e1287b/smarter_regulation_consultation_on_the_new_approach_to_the_fire_safety_of_domestic_upholstered_furniture.pdf

Main page for the consultation:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/smarter-regulation-fire-safety-of-domestic-upholstered-furniture>

Comments please to louise@pascuk.co.uk

FREE PASC UK FIRE SIGNS CATALOGUE**PASC UK FIRE ACTION SIGNS V1.**

October 2023

INTRODUCTION

This catalogue is designed to make it easier for you to select the Fire Action Signs from the Fire Section of the Website: <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/join-pasc-uk/>

By tomorrow afternoon at the latest, (Wednesday 25 October) we will have totally reorganised the free fire signs on the website. We now have 28 and some are finding it awkward to find exactly the one that they are looking for, so this section is being completely updated.

We have created a catalogue that you can download and that will tell you, with an illustration of each sign, what the descriptor is on the webpage and which number has been allocated to each sign.

We suggest that you download the Catalogue first, and select the signs that may be useful, and then download in turn. Should save a lot of time.

You will be able to download it from here: https://www.pascuk.co.uk/fire_checks_and_safety/

CLA FHL TAX BOOK



The CLA have just released an updated FHL Tax Guide, and this can be purchased on their website here:

<https://members.cla.org.uk/MY-CLA/Shop#!prod/c633f439-1b68-ee11-9ae7-6045bdc1e4b1/curr/GBP>

Description

With the rise in popularity of staycations within the UK, investing or diversifying into furnished holiday lettings (FHLs) may be financially attractive. This handbook provides an indispensable guide for landowners and professionals seeking to understand the intricacies of the tax rules surrounding FHL businesses.

It contains comprehensive and strategic guidance on the taxes that need to be considered, including income tax, capital gains tax, inheritance tax and VAT. Building upon the foundations laid by the previous edition, this publication encapsulates critical legislative updates and case law. It covers the new eligibility rules for business rates that have applied to self-catering properties since 1 April 2023, and it sets out in detail the different rules in England and Wales on business rates and available reliefs.

Our Comment

An essential handbook for anyone not familiar with the tax and tax allowances applied to self-catering/short-term letting.

EXAMPLE COST OF SUPPLY & FIT OF FIRE ALARMS IN A THREE BEDROOM PROPERTY

We have been asked many times recently how much it costs to install the fire alarms, and after seeing Members getting astronomical quotes, particularly for smaller installs, we asked our electrician to separate out one of our three bedroom installs to give an indication of cost. This is for a quality job, signed off and certificated, and supplying AICO equipment. They have done all our alarms.

This is a general quote, (subject to the usual, location and site survey) and an indication of how much to supply and fit a compliant hard wired, RF linked fire alarm system would cost. This is priced to supply AICO alarms.

This would include:

- 3 x bedrooms
- 1 x corridor upstairs
- 1 x corridor downstairs
- 1 x living / dining area
- 1 x kitchen

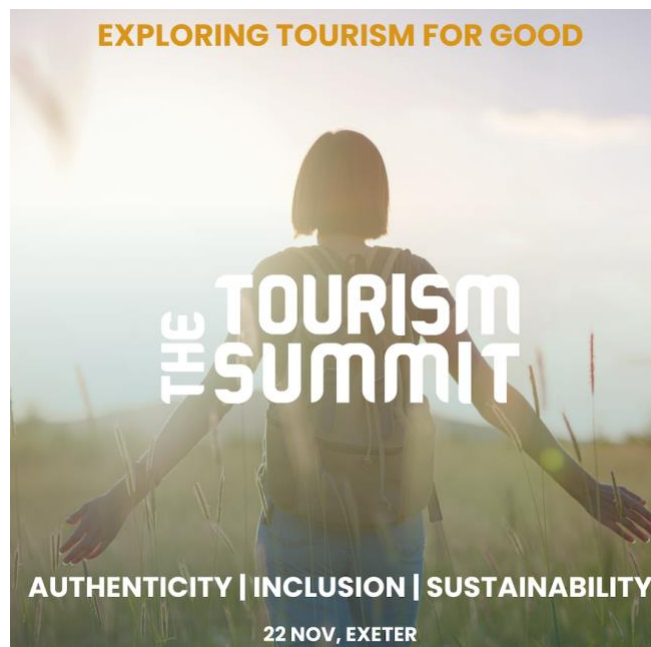
This would need 6 optical smoke detectors and 1 carbon heat detector,

As an indication this would be in the region of £1500 plus VAT.

Our electrician has a good team and several vans and can take on further work. His business can cover the triangle that is from Plymouth to Bristol and down to Lyme Regis, so essentially Devon and Somerset.

Members in that area who may be interested, can get the Companies contact details by emailing chair@pascuk.co.uk

TOURISM SUMMIT, EXETER 22 NOVEMBER



Book your place at The Tourism Summit a thought-provoking event exploring ‘Tourism for Good’ Winslade Park, Exeter | 22 November 2023

In a world grappling with the challenges of high living costs and workforce shortages, this event serves as a beacon of hope. The Tourism Summit spotlights the myriad of opportunities that await in our evolving world and equips you with the tools to not only thrive but also attract tomorrow’s travellers, ensuring greater impact on people, planet, and profitability.

The Tourism Summit brings together some key industry thought leaders, who will share insights that will ignite meaningful conversations on themes of sustainability, inclusion, diversity, and authenticity, leading to transformative change - tourism for good.

Our expert line-up includes:

Keynote speaker Geoff Holt MBE DL from Wetwheels. Geoff is a disability sports ambassador who has faced and overcome adversity. Paralysed from the chest down, Geoff has sailed unassisted across the Atlantic. Wetwheels offers a unique opportunity for disabled and disadvantaged people of all ages, including those with multiple, profound, and complex impairments to access the water.

Simon Numphud FIH Managing Director of AA Media who will be sharing observations, leading practice and initiatives across the sector that have helped hospitality businesses succeed.

Kalkidan Legesse from Devon Diversity is a Social Entrepreneur. Her dynamic storytelling and thought-provoking examples will empower you to challenge the status quo and think beyond stereotypes.

Chris Woodfield of Better Business and Tyf Adventure has a background in regenerative leadership and bold re-imagining to create the response needed to rise to the climate and nature challenge.

Katri Hastings from Bioregional, a not-for-profit sustainability consultancy who specialise on carbon and net zero, who specialise in sustainable business and sustainable places.

...and a whole lot more

Secure your ticket now – a new tourism community starts here with change for a brighter tomorrow.

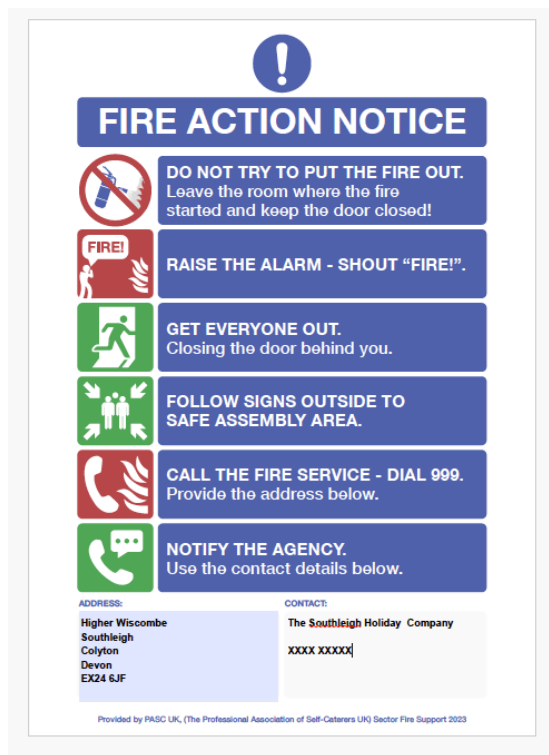
Tickets £125

Find out more: <https://www.thetourismsummit.co.uk>

Get your ticket: <https://www.thetourismsummit.co.uk/tickets/purchase/1>

FIRE GUIDANCE WHERE TO FIND IT ALL AND ANY UPDATES? 24 Oct

Only new paper this week is covered above, the PASC UK Fire Signs Catalogue.



They can be found here: https://www.pascuk.co.uk/fire_checks_and_safety/

(If you have any trouble downloading these images from the website, please try using Google Chrome as opposed to Google or Safari).

There are short docs that summarize the current situation with Fire Regs in self-catering in England and Wales. They signpost you to all the regulations, the Government produces Guidance, the additional PASC UK papers and more.

They can be found here: https://www.pascuk.co.uk/fire_checks_and_safety/

If you are looking for information on why the regs are now law in England, and coming in Wales, or what a Responsible person is, please refer to recent Newsletters.

<https://www.pascuk.co.uk/newsletters/>

Main Home Office Papers

Home Office Guidance on Making your small paying guest accommodation safe from fire 2023

This paper covers small units, without open plan downstairs, not more than four bedrooms, sleeping no more than twelve in two storey buildings.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1147723/A_guide_to_making_your_small_paying-guest-accommodation_safe_from_fire.pdf

Fire Safety Risk Assessment Sleeping Accommodation

This paper goes some way to helping with larger properties, but is an old paper, published in 2006 and is currently being updated by the Home Office. Earliest date expected is around the end of the year.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/422192/9281_Sleeping_Accommodation_v2.pdf

Additional PASC UK Supporting Papers

To help owners navigate through this, and to supplement the Government Papers mentioned above, we have commissioned three initial papers from our Fire expert, Paul Bray, GFireE, Fire Safety Consultant.

The papers are number 1,2 and 3. They can be found here: <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/reports/> and also here: https://www.pascuk.co.uk/fire_checks_and_safety/

Paper One: The Regulatory Reform Fire Safety Order 2005

This is a background paper explaining the legal background of the Fire Regs and the Fire Regs.

Paper 2: Additional Notes to the Home Office Guidance on Making your small paying guest accommodation safe from fire 2023

This paper provides additional notes to use in conjunction with the Home Office Guidance on Making your small paying guest accommodation safe from fire paper.

Paper 3: Applying the Sleeping Risk Guide to existing holiday accommodation

This paper provides the first paper on providing additional information for larger properties.

These have been followed by....

Fire Checks at Changeover, Routine maintenance and Testing V1

This provides a guide to fire checks at changeover, and a testing regime.

How to find a Competent Fire Risk Assessor?

This provides the websites where you can find authorised fire experts.

Updated Fire Risk Assessment

Suitable for use with the 'Small' guide from the Home Office and Welsh Fire, with the addition of a 'Review Date' box.

Train as a Competent Fire Risk Assessor

Lots of request about how to become a Competent Fire Risk Assessor. This is probably only feasible and of interest to those with multiple properties or agencies.

Additional Fire Safety Notices (without What3Words)

We have produced some further Fire Safety Notices without a space at the bottom for What3Words. We really do recommend that you include creating a What3Words reference for your property as the vast majority of emergency services all over the country use it.

What3 Words explained

What3Words is and how to use it.

FAQ's

We have published the first sets of FAQ's, the most commonly asked fire questions. This will be regularly updated and when updates are made, they will also appear in the newsletter.

These can all be found at https://www.pascuk.co.uk/fire_checks_and_safety/

Next Steps

In addition, PASC UK **will be providing the following over the coming weeks.**

- Further Papers and Webinars (See Webinar Programme) **(Underway)**
- Regular updates on mitigation measures for buildings outside the **Home Office Guidance on Making your small paying guest accommodation safe from fire 2023 (Underway)**
- Work with Home Office and Fire Experts to come up with reasonable and proportionate mitigations for those with properties outside the **Home Office Guidance on Making your small paying guest accommodation safe from fire 2023. (Underway)**
- Prepare a case study of a Fire Risk Assessment (FRA) of our own property for Members, this will include a FRA covering our large, ten-bedroom, three storey property with open plan kitchens. **(Due shortly)**
- More will be added over the coming weeks

Members questions are welcome on any issues that they have with their Fire Risk Assessments, and we will answer as best we can. We are not ourselves fire safety experts and will do our best to try and offer solutions or signposts to solutions. We are afraid that we cannot answer non-Members questions on fire issues.

OCCASIONAL PROBLEMS WITH DOWNLOADS FROM THE PASC UK WEBSITE REPEAT

Reports of this are now much reduced, just a handful over the weekend and yesterday and downloads showing no sign of decreasing, so if you do have a problem, please refer back to this section first. Thanks.

We are getting reports that some are experiencing problems downloading docs from the PASC UK website. Currently thousands of documents a day are being successfully downloaded, however if you

do have a problem, please at first try changing your browser to Google Chrome (a more recent iteration of google, just Google it, open it and start searching...). That seems to solve 99.9% of problems. This has been caused by a complete overload in the last week or so.

We have been working flat out to solve this and testing last night and this morning with a changed system of downloading means that in our tests Safari, Google, Chrome and Firefox are working... You now have to provide brief details, and the link is sent to you via a transponder...

Looks like this.

You get asked the following...

PASC UK FIRE NOTICE FOR OWNERS (NO WHAT3WORDS)

To download this report, please complete the following form.

Contact Name

Email Address

Company Name

If you would like to be kept up to date on all matters self-catering/short term lets in England and Wales, tick the box below to receive our free weekly Newsletter.

Thank you for completing this form. Your download has been sent to you via email. If it doesn't arrive shortly, please check your junk mail.

Once completed and submitted you get an email that looks like this... and you click on the link. Then you can save the doc too.

Here's Your Download Link To The PASC UK Fire Notice For Owners



o PASC UK Website <admin@pascuk.co.uk>

To: o chair@pascuk.co.uk

Message Body:
Alistair Handside

Thank you for requesting this report. You can download it [here](#).

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on PASC UK

We are also increasing the capacity of the website to handle the current volume.

If you are a Member, you do not need to log in first, the main link is off the home page at www.pascuk.co.uk

In the last resort please let us know which papers you are struggling to download, and we will get them to you as quickly as possible. chair@pascuk.co.uk Please be patient, we may be on the road, in meetings or zooms, so please try Google Chrome first. Thanks.

NEW TRADE DIRECTORY

Please suggest to your trusted suppliers that they can be listed for free on the PASC UK Trade Directory, just send them the second link in this article, ten added in last week 😊

Last week, we also launched the Trade Directory. We intend for this to be a resource where you can find all kinds of services that you need to run your business. We have started with the suppliers that many of you have sent in. Here are the initial listings, with clear categories.

<https://www.pascuk.co.uk/business-directory/>

We are looking for many, many more. There is no charge for suppliers to list here and we have created a simple form for them to apply to be listed, so if you have a good Fire Risk Assessor, or photographer, or accountant, please get them to fill in the really simple form here:

<https://www.pascuk.co.uk/add-a-business-listing/>

Thanks, with all your help we can build a really comprehensive directory. Comments welcome.

RESETTING YOUR PASSWORD FOR THE PASC UK MEMBERS AREA

You are able to check your account details and download any of the 25 Members only PASC UK papers. The full list of the PASC UK Members Papers is detailed below.

Anticipated questions:

1/ How do I log in?

On the main PASC website you will see a link in the top right-hand corner called "Member Login". Click this link and enter your email address and password. Once logged in you will be in the members area.

2/ I can't find my password.

Click on the "Member login" link on the far right of the menu on our website and click the "forgot password" link which is in blue text just below the "log in" button. Enter your email address in the field and click "request password reset" button.

3/ Who do I contact if I cannot get in?

If you are having difficulty, please email admin@pascuk.co.uk and Justin will investigate for you.

4/ My username doesn't match my email address, does it matter?

No, it doesn't, usually your username would be your email address, but through address changes and mistyping, some don't match up. However, the only place those are used is in the login field, all correspondence will go to your usual email address. Unfortunately, it isn't possible to change the username once it has been set.

NEWSLETTER INDEX (WHERE TO FIND PREVIOUS INFORMATION)

All previous content is indexed and can be found on the 2022/23 Index on the Newsletter page. Look for PASC UK Index 2022/23. This will be updated weekly.

<https://www.pascuk.co.uk/newsletters/>

WALES INFORMATION AND WHERE TO FIND IT

If you are affected by what is happening in Wales and do not get the direct Wales only communications, please email me at chair@pascuk.co.uk put **Wales Newsletter** in the subject line and we will add you to the Wales Only circulation list.

Previous Wales Newsletters can all be found here: <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/wales-182-days-reports/>

GENERAL INFORMATION SECTION

PASC UK SOCIAL MEDIA

Please consider following PASC UK on Social Media, it gives us a way to contact you quickly in the event of any changes or announcements that are made. We promise not to bombard you and to try to keep it relevant and topical.

PASC UK on Twitter [@PascUK](#)

PASC UK on Facebook [@pascukltd](#)

This is where the latest news between newsletters gets posted.

PASC UK MEMBERS ONLY PAPERS

This is the current list of Members Only papers available in the Members area of the website.

- [PASC UK Business Rates Claim Note England](#)

A guide to 'Claiming' your property in England. You cannot 'check' You cannot 'Check' your properties Business Rates until you have done this.

- [PASC UK Business Rates Check Note England](#)

The guide will take you through 'checking' your Business Rates in England. It is vital that you book a call with the Chair before completing and submitting this 'Check'.

- [PASC UK Template Privacy Policy June 2022](#)

All businesses in the UK are required to have an up-to-date Privacy and Cookie. Not having one can lead to fines. This document provides you with a template policy.

- [PASC UK Template, Privacy Policies explained June 22](#)

This document explains Privacy Policies

- [PASC UK Template Cookie Policy and Guidance June 22](#)

This document gives further guidance on Cookie and Privacy Policies

- [PASC UK Guidance on using CCTV 2021](#)

Having CCTV at business premises can bring benefits, however there are several stages of legal compliance that you need to go through to operate such a system.

- [PASC UK Template CCTV Policy June 2022](#)

This document provides you with a basic CCTV Template Policy.

- [PASC UK Guidance on completing a short form LIA](#)

A 'Legitimate Interests Assessment' is a requirement if you have CCTV. This will guide you through creating one.

- [PASC UK Template LIA](#)

This document is a template Legitimate Interests Assessment for CCTV

- [PASC UK Template Breach Risk Assessment \(Req if you have a GDPR breach\)](#)

This template will guide you through the steps to take if you have a breach of GDPR.

- [PASC UK Record of Processing \(This is what data that you store and for how long?\)](#)

This template gives you the headings for the types of data that you store and for how long.

- [PASC UK Template Internet Fair Usage Policy](#)

This template document can be inserted into your Terms and Conditions to cover fair internet usage at your business.

- [PASC UK EV Charging Guidance \(This is about to be updated for 2023, launch expected end of May 2023\)](#)

This guidance takes you through putting together an EV Charging Policy at your business, necessary even if you do not have EV charge points, to help protect against charging out of the window.

- [PASC UK EV Charging Policy for Member's T's & C's](#)

This template document can be inserted into your Terms and Conditions to cover EV charging at your business, whether you provide the facility or not so as to help maintain insurance cover.

- [PASC UK Ghosting Report](#)

Ghosting is the practice that is employed by some self-catering agents whereby they leave your property on their website after you have left, with 'this property no longer available' Book one of these. This report tells you the steps you can take to have the property removed.

- [PASC UK Risk summary of 3rd Party suppliers at Holiday lets](#)

Having third party suppliers giving services to our guests at our businesses requires careful planning, in order not to void insurance. This paper explains the steps to take to maintain insurance cover. Covers chefs, mobile cooking companies, hot tub rental, bouncy castles. Entertainers etc.

- [PASC UK ICO Registration Paper](#)

This paper explains whether or not your business needs to register with the ICO. In 99% of cases PASC UK Members will need to do so. It costs £40 to register.

- [PASC UK ICO Registration FAQ's](#)

This document answers the most common questions about registering with the ICO and why you need to.

- [PASC UK Guidance on damage caused by guest and your T's & C's](#)

This document provides Members with another clause for their T's and C's. this one to protect you if guests cause damage to the property such that you have to cancel subsequent bookings and who pays.

- [PASC UK Template for clause in T's C's ref guest damage](#)

This is the template clause to add to your Terms and Conditions to protect you if guest damage causes future cancellations.

- [PASC UK Guest Comms Paper](#)

Improving the flow of Guest Communications from initial contact prebooking to post departure is one of the key elements to improving guest satisfaction and driving up repeat bookings. This paper should be taken in conjunction with the webinar on this subject in the Webinars section.

- [PASC UK Influencer Paper](#)

Many Members have reported being contacted by influencer or media offering coverage of your property in exchange for a free stay. There are several legal aspects to Members being offered this that they need to be aware of. These are covered in this Paper.

PASC UK MEMBERS LOGO UPDATED

We have updated the logos for Members to display on their websites. We now have a full set of Welsh versions too. A full variety of shapes and formats are available to suit all layouts.



MEMBER BENEFITS SUMMARISED

To carry out the lobbying work that we do on behalf of the Sector we need funding. 90% plus of this funding comes from Membership Subscriptions.

Members will get.

- Access to Telephone Support
- Prompt email support
- Access to Members Benefits and Discounts. (Buying Group Membership details below)
- Members only Webinars, (Including ask the Chair sessions)
- Book Appointments with the Chair
- Specific Discounts on key products
- PASC UK Guides to reducing Business Rates
- Hard Copy of the Visit England Pink Book
- 25 and growing Special Interest Papers including legal docs such Privacy and Cookie Policies

What will be available to non-members?

- The PASC UK newsletters
- Email support when available. (Members support comes first).
- Free Webinars
- Fire protocols
- Some General interest Papers

We are currently making major investments in supporting you better and all this costs money, these include.

- Sponsorship of the Visit England Pink book, to help promote the safe and legal aspects of our sector
- Membership fees to the Tourism Alliance, UK Hospitality and Wales Tourism Alliance
- Surveys and reports to use data-based arguments to win support for the sector
- Legal papers to help inform and protect Members.

If you have not yet joined PASC UK, please consider joining NOW. Details below the Buying Club information. <https://bit.ly/3ptd4RU> Thanks.

BUYING CLUB MEMBER BENEFIT FOR PAID PASC UK MEMBERS

More details on the new PASC UK website here: <https://bit.ly/3ptd4RU>

This is a Buying Club, it's free to join if you are a paid up PASC UK Member. There will be no additional fee for Members to join the Club.

SUPPORT LOBBYING BY JOINING PASC UK

There is a huge amount of work and lobbying to do to help support you all in the self-catering sector. We don't ask very often, however, if we are to fight on so many fronts, we simply need more funds. There are thousands of you that have had the benefit of this newsletter and the lobbying done on behalf of the sector.

We are now asking that as many of you as possible join PASC UK. The fight is on so many fronts, and we get much better results when we engage proper legal advice and proper PR firms to assist with campaigns. Memberships to other organisations that provide common lobbying, information feeds and support also cost many thousands of pounds a year.

Membership fees are as follows: All per annum.

- Single cottage £70
- 2 – 4 Units £125
- 5 – 10 Units £200
- 11 + Units £300

For companies like cleaning firms, or industry support companies, Trade Membership is £200, and you will get a listing in the Trade Directory on the new website.

Members get telephone support and priority email support.

You can join here, simple form, takes 2 mins, and you'll get an invoice, payable by BACS or Credit Card. Just click on this link to go to the joining page: <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/join-pasc-uk/>

Wishing each and every one of you all the best.

Best regards

Alistair Handyside MBE
Executive Chair
The Professional Association of Self-Caterers UK
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DISCLAIMER

The content of this newsletter does not constitute legal advice. PASC UK are not legally qualified and make no representation or warranty of any kind regarding the completeness, accuracy, adequacy, availability, validity, reliability and suitability of the information contained herein. Any reliance you place on such material is therefore strictly at your own risk and PASC UK will not be liable for any losses/damages you suffer as a result of your reliance.

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