



Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy

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Dear Mark,

Thank you for your email of 27 June regarding provision for mobile catering in the Business and Planning Bill. I am replying on behalf of the Department and I know that you have spoken to officials since.

As we emerge from this pandemic, the Government wants to do all it can to support our economic recovery, help businesses adjust to new ways of working and support jobs.

Although mobile markets and mobile caterers are not within scope of this Bill, the Government has taken important steps to support the formation of markets that should benefit mobile caterers. For example:

- We have introduced new regulations to make it easier for Local Authorities to hold markets for any length of time without the need for planning permission,
- We have doubled the length of time a developer can use land for any purpose during the calendar year, including to establish markets which can operate for 28 days in the calendar year,
- We have made it easier for Local Authorities to close roads, widen pavements and suspend parking bays to provide extra space, which can be used for outdoor markets, and
- We would fully expect Local Authorities to ensure that mobile hospitality businesses are able to benefit from these recently introduced measures.

Regarding alcohol licensing, it is important that every person wishing to sell alcohol has a licence to do so and for licensing authorities to be able to record and regulate the sale of alcohol throughout their area of control.

Under the current legislation, where a vehicle or mobile structure has an alcohol licence, that licence only allows them to sell alcohol in one location. When the vehicle or structure moves to another place, a separate premises licence is required to undertake licensable activities.

Mobile traders can however opt for a Temporary Event Notice authorisation or benefit from a premises licence held for the land or building in which a market or event at which they are trading will take place. They may therefore in these circumstances choose not to apply for a premises licence of their own.

If mobile traders wish to alter the terms of their licences they can also apply for a variation to their licence under existing legislation.

Thank you again for taking the time to write. I hope you find this information useful.



**PAUL SCULLY MP**

Minister for Small Business, Consumers & Labour Markets  
Minister for London