

Rights of a Party

Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005, regs. 15 & 16

15. Right of Attendance, assistance and representation at the hearing

Hearing to be public The licensing authority may exclude the public from all or part of a hearing where it considers that the public interest in so doing outweighs the public interest in the hearing, or that part of the hearing, taking place in public.

Party to the hearing This is a person to whom the notice of hearing is given. This may be the applicant, or a person or body who has made a relevant representation or submitted an objection notice.

Assistance A party may attend the hearing and may be assisted or represented by any person, whether or not that person is legally qualified.

Disruptive Behaviour The licensing authority may, if they consider any person attending the hearing is behaving in a disruptive manner:

- Require them to leave the hearing
- Refuse to permit that person to return
- Permit the person to return only on such conditions as the authority may specify.

A person who is excluded may submit (in writing, before the end of the hearing) any information which they would have been entitled to give orally, had they not been required to leave.

16. Representations and Supporting Information

At the hearing a party will be entitled to:

- If you have been notified of any points upon which the Licensing Authority is seeking clarification, you will be entitled to respond, giving any further information in support of your application, representation or notice.
- Address the hearing.
- If given permission by the authority, question any other party.

For more information, please see the guidance sheet on "**Making an effective relevant representation**".