

## **Trading Standards Legal Requirements for Exhibitors**

Devon Trading Standards Service have responsibility for the enforcement of legal compliance in relation to various aspects of trading laws. Unannounced inspections will take place throughout the festival, therefore, please ensure you are complying with relevant legal requirements, some of which may include:-

**Food Labelling Requirements** – Food labelling requirements are complex (& associated issues such as allergens/GM declarations etc), and these requirements vary greatly from product to product. Therefore, please visit our website to check our business advice leaflets tailored for specific food products:-

[Food Advice Leaflets](#)

**Weights & Measures** – Many goods must be sold by net weight and the quantity sold made known to the customer before a sale is concluded. Generally suitably accurate weighing equipment must be used that is approved and government stamped for trade use. Please see advice leaflets for specific products:-

[Weights & Measures Advice Leaflets](#)

**Organic Claims** – Organic claims e.g. “We use organic flour”, must not be made unless you have independent certification/approval to do so. You cannot make any ‘Organic’ claims just because you use organic ingredients. Please refer to advice leaflet:-

[A guide for producers, processors and packers of organic products](#)

**Local Claims** – Local claims e.g. “Devonshire”, “Local cheeses”, must not be made unless accurate. Trading Standards view that the term ‘Local’ means produced within a 30 mile radius from where it is being sold. Please refer to advice Leaflet:-

[Local Food Claims, Guidance for Business](#)

**Age Restricted Sales** – Legislation relating to the sale of age restricted products (alcohol, knives etc), must be adhered to, including appropriate signage at point of sale. It is also advised that an identification policy is used. Please refer to advice leaflet:-

[Age Restricted Products](#)

**Pricing & Descriptions of Goods** – The price of all items (including VAT) should be clearly displayed. Extra charges for credit or debit card payment must also be clearly displayed. Please see the attached BERR pricing guidance for further details, which also provides guidance in relation to pricing of promotions such as buy one get one free offers. Any information provided to consumers such as descriptions must be accurate and must not be misleading to consumers. It is also against the law to omit information that may affect the purchaser’s decision to buy goods or services. Please refer to advice leaflets:-

[BERR Pricing Practices Guide](#)

[Fair Trading Advice Leaflets](#)

**Companies Act** – Each company, partnership, or sole trader must clearly display on their exhibitor stand their registered business name (including personal name of sole trader/partners if different to trading name), and an address to which legal documents could be sent in the event of a complaint. Please refer to advice leaflet:-

[Company and Business Names](#)

**Safety of Goods** – Traders who sell, manufacture or import products should ensure they only place products on the market that are safe. Certain products will be required to meet explicit essential safety requirements, which can be demonstrated by meeting the relevant standards. Please refer to safety advice leaflets and product recalls:-

[Trading Standards Safety Advice Leaflets](#)  
[Product Safety Guidance](#)

**Giant Lighters** - A number of traders have been found selling giant lighters which have been the cause of fires and personal injury. Lighters which contain more than 10g of LPG should not be transported and the majority of Giant lighters found have contained more than 10g. Please refer to the recent press report:-

[Press release Giant Lighters - Trading Standards Institute](#)

**As a business you are responsible for ensuring your compliance with the law. Devon County Council Trading Standards Services recognises there may sometimes be difficulties in interpreting and applying legislation and we therefore offer a free advice service to help you comply with the law relevant to your trade.**

This document is not exhaustive advice – but a general guide to some general legal requirements. If you require any further information or clarification, please contact Devon Trading Standards on 01392 381 381 for traders based in Devon, or your local Trading Standards Authority, if you are based outside of Devon. Alternatively, you can visit our website [www.devon.gov.uk/tradingstandards](http://www.devon.gov.uk/tradingstandards).