

**Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960**  
**Section 5**

**Model Standards 1989: Permanent Residential Mobile Homes Sites**

**Schedule of Conditions**

**Site Boundaries**

1) The boundaries of the site should be clearly marked, for example by fences or hedges. In addition, the site owner should give the local authority a plan of its layout.

It is recommended that a three metre wide area should be kept clear within the inside of all boundaries.

**Density and Space between Caravans**

2) Subject to the following variations, every caravan should be not less than six metres from any other caravan which is occupied separately and not less than two metres from a road. The point of measurement for porches, awnings etc is the exterior cladding of the caravan.

- Porches may protrude one metre into the metres and should be of the open type.

- Where awnings are used, the distance between any part of the awning and an adjoining caravan should not be less than three metres. They should not be of the type which incorporates sleeping accommodation and they should not face each other or touch.

- Eaves, drainpipes and bay windows may extend into the six metre space provided the total distance between the extremities of two adjacent units is not less than 5.25 metres.

- Where there are ramps for the disabled, verandas and stairs extending from the unit, there should be 4.5m clear space between them and two such items should not face each other in any space. If they are enclosed, they may need to be considered as part of the unit and, as such, should not intrude into the six metre space.

- A shed or a covered storage space should be permitted between units only if it is of non-combustible construction (including non-combustible roof) and sufficient space is maintained around each unit so as not to prejudice means of escape in case of fire. Windows in such structures should not face towards the units on either side. Covered walkways should in no circumstances be allowed within the six metre space. For cars and boats between units, see Standard (27).

NB: Please note that the implementation of any of the above matters may require planning permission. You are therefore advised to discuss any plans/intentions with the planning department before commencement.

3) The density should be consistent with safety standards and health and safety requirements. The gross density should not exceed fifty caravans to the hectare, calculated on the basis of the usable area (ie excluding lakes, roads, communal

services and other areas unsuitable for the siting of caravans) rather than the total site area.

### **Roads, Gateways and Footpaths**

4) Roads and footpaths should be designed to provide adequate access for fire appliances. (Detailed guidance on turning circles etc is available from fire authorities). Roads of suitable material should be provided so that no caravan standing is more than fifty metres from a road. Where the approach to the caravan is across ground that may become difficult or dangerous to negotiate in wet weather, each standing should be connected to a carriageway by a footpath with a hard surface. Roads should not be less than 3.7 metres wide, or, if they form part of a clearly-marked one way traffic system, three metres wide. Gateways should be a minimum of 3.1 metres wide and have a minimum height clearance of 3.7 metres.

Footpaths should not be less than 0.75 metres wide. Roads should have no overhead cable less than 4.5 metres above the ground. Roads and footpaths should be suitably lit. Emergency vehicle routes within the site should be kept clear of obstruction at all times.

### **Hard Standings**

5) Every caravan should stand on a concrete hard-standing which should extend over the whole area occupied by the caravan placed upon it, and should project a sufficient distance outwards from its entrance or entrances to enable occupants to enter and leave safely.

NB: Please note that the implementation of any of the above matters may require planning permission. You are therefore advised to discuss any plans/intentions with the planning department before commencement.

### **Fire Fighting Appliances**

#### **Fire Points**

6) These should be established so that no caravan or site building is more than thirty metres from a fire point. They should be housed in a weather-proof structure, easily accessible and clearly and conspicuously marked "FIRE POINT".

#### **Fire Fighting Equipment**

7) Where water standpipes are provided and there is a water supply for sufficient pressure and flow to project a jet of water approximately five metres from the nozzle, such water standpipes should be situated at each fire point. There should also be a reel that complies with British Standard 5306 Part 1, with a hose not less than thirty metres long, having a means of connection to a water standpipe (preferably a screw thread connection) with a water supply of sufficient pressure

and terminating in a small hand control nozzle. Hoses should be housed in a box painted red and marked "HOSE REEL".

8) Where standpipes are not provided but there is a water supply of sufficient pressure and flow, fire hydrants should be installed within 100 metres of every caravan standing. Hydrants should conform to British Standard 750. Access to hydrants and other water supplies should not be obstructed or obscured.

9) Where standpipes are not provided or the water pressure or flow is not sufficient, each fire point should be provided with either water extinguishers (2x9 litre) or a water tank of at least 500 litres capacity fitted with a hinged cover, two buckets and one hand pump or bucket pump.

### **Fire Warning**

10) A means of raising the alarm in the event of a fire should be provided at each fire point. This could be by means of a manually operated sounder, eg metal triangle with a striker, gong or hand operated siren. The advice of the fire authority should be sought on an appropriate system.

### **Maintenance**

11) All alarm and fire fighting equipment should be installed, tested and maintained in working order by a competent person and be available for inspection by, or on behalf of, the licensing authority. A log book should be kept to record all tests and any remedial action.

12) All equipment susceptible to damage by frost should be suitably protected.

### **Fire Notices**

13) A clearly written and conspicuous notice should be provided and maintained at each fire point to indicate the action to be taken in case of fire and the location of the nearest telephone. This notice should include the following:

"On discovering a fire -

a) Ensure the caravan or site building involved is evacuated.

b) Raise the alarm.

a) Call the fire brigade (the nearest telephone is sited .....).

d) Attack the fire using the fire fighting equipment provided, if safe to do so.

It is the interest of all occupiers of this site to be familiar with the above routine and the method of operating the fire alarm and fire fighting equipment".

### **Fire Hazards**

14) Long grass and vegetation should be cut at frequent and regular intervals where necessary to prevent it becoming a fire hazard to caravans, buildings or

other installations on the site. Any such cuttings should be removed from the vicinity of caravans. The space beneath and between caravans should not be used for the storage of combustible materials.

### **Telephones**

15) An immediate accessible telephone should be available on the site for calling the emergency services. A notice by the telephone should include the address of the site.

### **Storage of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)**

16) LPG storage supplied from tanks should comply with LPGA Code of Practice 1 Part 1 "Bulk storage at fixed installations: installation and operation of vessels located above ground" (or, where LPG is supplied from cylinders) LPGA Code of Practice 7: "Storage of full and empty LPG cylinders and cartridges" as appropriate.

Where there are metered supplies from a common LPG storage tank, then LPGA Code of Practice 25: "The Storage and Use of LPG at Metered Estates" provides further guidance. In this case and where a mains gas supply is available, then the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 and the Pipe-lines Act 1962 may also be applicable.

Exposed gas bottles or cylinders should not be within the separation boundary of an adjoining unit.

LPG installation should conform to British Standard 5482, "Code of Practice for Domestic Butane and Propane Gas Burning Installations, Part 2: 1977 Installations in Caravans and Non-Permanent Dwellings".

For mains gas supply, the 1984 Regulations will be relevant for the installation downstream of any service pipe(s) supplying any primary meter(s) and such service pipes are subject to the Gas Safety Regulations 1972.

In cases where the site owner supplies gas to caravans on the site, he may need an authorisation to do so from OFGAS under the Gas Act 1986.

**N.B. Where amendments or replacement of any of the above statutes have been made, the contents of this Section should be read as to include any such amendments, and it is the duty of the Licence Holder to ascertain the currency of any legislative requirement.**

### **Electrical Installations**

17) Sites should be provided with an electricity supply sufficient in all respects to meet all reasonable demands of the caravans situated on them.

18) Any electrical installations, which are not Electricity Board works and circuits subject to regulations made by the Secretary of State under Section 16 of the Energy Act 1983 and Section 64 of the Electricity Act 1947, should be installed,

tested and maintained in accordance with the provisions of the Institution of Electrical Engineers' (IEE) Regulations for Electrical Installations for the time being in force, and where appropriate, to the standard which would be acceptable for the purposes of the Electricity Supply Regulations 1988, Statutory Instrument 1988 No 1057.

**N.B. Where amendments or replacement of any of the above statutes have been made, the contents of this Section should be read as to include any such amendments, and it is the duty of the Licence Holder to ascertain the currency of any legislative requirement.**

19) Work on electrical installations and appliances should be carried out only by competent persons such as the manufacturer's appointed agent, the electricity supplier, a professionally qualified electrical engineer, a member of the Electrical Contractors' Association, a contractor approved by the National Inspection Council for Electrical Installation Contracting, or a qualified person acting on behalf of one of the above. The installations should be inspected periodically: under IEE Wiring Regulations, every year or such longer period (not exceeding three years) as is considered appropriate in each case. When an installation is inspected, it should be judged against the current regulations.

The inspector should, within one month of such an inspection, issue an inspection certificate in the form prescribed in the IEE Wiring Regulations which should be retained by the site operator and displayed, supplemented or replaced by subsequent certificates, with the site licence. The cost of the inspection and report should be met by the site operator or licence holder.

20) If an inspection reveals that an installation no longer complies with the regulations extant at the time it was first installed, any deficiencies should be rectified. Any major alterations and extensions to an installation and all parts of the existing installation affected by them should comply with the latest version of the IEE Wiring Regulations.

21) If there are overhead electric lines on the site, suitable warning notices should be displayed at the entrance to the site and on supports for the line. Where appropriate, particular attention should be drawn to the danger of masts of yachts or dinghies contacting the line.

### **Water Supply**

22) All parks should be provided with a water supply in accordance with appropriate Water Bye-Laws and statutory quality standards.

### **Drainage, Sanitation and Washing Facilities**

23) Satisfactory provision should be made for foul drainage, either by connection to a public sewer or sewerage treatment works or by discharge to a properly constructed septic tank or cesspool approved by the local authority.

24) Every caravan should have its own water supply and internal water closet, properly connected to the foul drainage system. In addition, every caravan should be provided with a bath or shower, wash-hand basin and sink, each with a constant supply of hot and cold water. All amenities should be properly connected to the drainage system. (In relation to existing older units, although the provision of these additional facilities within the unit is encouraged, where any unit is without them, suitable and sufficient communal facilities should be provided and maintained).

25) Every site and every hard standing should be provided with an adequate drainage system for the complete and hygienic disposal of foul, rain and surface water from the site, buildings, caravans, roads and footpaths.

### **Refuse Disposal**

26) Every caravan standing should have an adequate number of suitable non-combustible refuse bins with close-fitting lids or plastic bags. Arrangements should be made for the bins to be emptied regularly. Where communal refuse bins are also provided these should be of similar construction and housed within a properly constructed bin store.

NB: Please note that the implementation of any of the above matters may require planning permission. You are therefore advised to discuss any plans/intentions with the planning department before commencement.

### **Parking**

27) One car only may be parked between adjoining caravans provided that the door to the caravan is not obstructed. Suitably surfaced parking spaces should be provided where necessary to meet the additional requirements of the occupants and their visitors. Plastic or wooden boats should not be parked between units.

NB: Please note that the implementation of any of the above matters may require planning permission. You are therefore advised to discuss any plans/intentions with the planning department before commencement.

### **Recreation Space**

28) Where children live on site, space equivalent to about one-tenth of the total area should be allocated for children's games and/or other recreational purposes. This provision will normally be necessary because of the limited space available round the caravans, but may be omitted where there are suitable alternative publicly provided recreational facilities which are readily accessible.

## **Notices**

29) A suitable sign should be prominently displayed at the site entrance indicating the name of the site.

30) A copy of the site licence with its Conditions should be displayed prominently on the site.

31) Notices and a plan should be displayed on the site setting out the action to be taken in the event of an emergency. They should show where the police, fire brigade, ambulance, and local doctors can be contacted, and the location of the nearest public telephone. The notices should also give the name and location/telephone number of the site licence holder or his/her accredited representative. At sites subject to flood risk, warning notices should be displayed giving advice about the operation of the flood warning system.

32) All notices should be suitably protected from the weather and displayed where possible out of the direct rays of the sun, preferably in areas lit by artificial lighting.