

TRAFFIC COMMISSIONERS GUIDELINES

The Traffic Commissioners Guidelines, together with the Sporting Events (Control of Alcohol) Act 1985, as amended by the Public Order Act 1986, prohibits alcohol on a vehicle which :-

- i) is either a public service vehicle or a vehicle adapted to carry more than 8 passengers (i.e, mini – bus) and ;
- ii) is being used for the principal purpose of carrying passengers for the whole or part of a journey to or from a designated sporting event.

Coach Operators are reminded to keep to the following new guidelines when carrying supporters to and from football matches :-

1. Coach Operators should inform the Police Liaison Officer at the destination at least 48 hours before the event, with details of the number of coaches and supporters
2. Coaches are not to stop within 10 miles of the venue either on route to or from the event unless prior agreement is obtained from the local Police Liaison Officer.
3. Unless directed otherwise by a Police Officer, coaches may stop at premises where intoxicating liquor is sold only if it is sold ancillary to a substantial meal.
4. Coaches are to arrive at the venue no earlier than two hours before and not later than one hour before kick off.
5. Coaches are not to set down or uplift passengers at any unauthorised locations without prior permission of the police.
6. Coaches must leave the venue within one hour of the finish of the event.

The Commissioner has powers to attach conditions to Operations Licences in relation to journeys to and from football matches but prefers to rely on co-operation between Operators and Police. The Police have been asked to notify the Commissioner of any incidents where the guidelines have not been followed so that he may consider whether any conditions should be imposed.

**Several Companies were reported to the Traffic Commissioners
by Cleveland Police last season.**