



East Sussex
Fire & Rescue Service

EAST SUSSEX FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

ENFORCEMENT NOTICE

Notice No: ESFRS/WE/RE/0301/E1/23

Notice requiring steps to be taken under Article 30 of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

Name of Premises: Yew Tree Inn
Address of Premises: Chalvington Lane, Chalvington, BN27 3TB
Responsible Person: Mr Mark Winston Thomas, Mr Coleridge James Coomber, trading as 'Yew Tree Inn'

I, Roger Easey, on behalf of East Sussex Fire Authority, hereby give you notice that the Fire Authority are of the opinion that, as a person being under an obligation to do so, you have failed to comply with the requirements placed upon you by the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 in respect of the above named premises and the persons who may be on the premises or who may be affected by a fire on the premises.

The matters which, in the opinion of the Fire Authority, constitute the failures to comply with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 are specified in the Schedule to this Notice.

The Fire Authority is further of the opinion that the steps identified in the Schedule to this Notice must be taken to remedy the specified failures to comply with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.

The steps identified in the Schedule are to be completed by the dates indicated.

Unless the steps identified in the Schedule to this Notice have been completed within the given time limit, you will be deemed not to have complied with this Notice and the Fire Authority may consider a prosecution against you. You may however apply for an extension to this time limit (see notes).

You have the right to appeal against the Notice (see notes), by way of complaint for an order, to the Clerk to the Court of the Magistrates' Court acting for the petty sessions area in which your premises is located. If you wish to bring an appeal, you must do so within 21 days of the date this Notice is served on you. The Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 will apply to the proceedings. The bringing of an appeal shall have the effect of suspending the operation of this Enforcement Notice until the appeal is finally disposed of or, if the appeal is withdrawn, until the withdrawal of the appeal.

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Easey', written over a vertical line.

Date: 01 March 2023

(on behalf of, and duly authorised by, East Sussex Fire Authority)

**SCHEDULE REFERRED TO IN ENFORCEMENT NOTICE NO ESFRS/WE/RE/0301/E1/23
REQUIRING STEPS TO BE TAKEN UNDER ARTICLE 30 OF THE REGULATORY REFORM
(FIRE SAFETY) ORDER 2005 ISSUED BY EAST SUSSEX FIRE AUTHORITY ON 01 MARCH
2023**

Name of Premises: Yew Tree Inn

Address of Premises: Chalvington Lane, Chalvington, BN27 3TB

Where appropriate, a plan may form part of this Schedule to illustrate the steps which, in the opinion of the Fire Authority, need to be taken in order to comply with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.

Note: Notwithstanding any consultation undertaken by the Fire Authority, **before** you make any alterations to the premises, **you** may need to apply for approval from either the Local Authority Building Control or an Approved Inspector and/or the approval of any other local bodies having a statutory interest in the premises.

SCHEDULE

The location and details of matters which are considered to be failures to comply with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 are detailed, along with the steps considered necessary to remedy the failures.

1 Failure under Article 8(1)(a) & 8(1)(b) of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.

(The responsible person must take such general fire precautions as will ensure the safety of all persons present).

1.1 Failure

The Responsible Person has failed to provide adequate fire protection to the single staircase serving the domestic flat on the first floor.

Remedy

Access and egress to the domestic flat on the first floor must be completely separated from the commercial premises by construction having a fire resistance of at least half an hour. This is to be provided in accordance with the standards detailed in the appropriate HM Government Fire Safety Risk Assessment Guide.

DATE REQUIRED - 1 September 2023

Supporting Information

The carrying out of a suitable and sufficient Fire Risk Assessment by a competent person should identify adequate options to meet this remedy.

For instance, an option may be to provide an external stair with an entrance/exit to the first floor flat.

Another option may be to provide a protected route by enclosing the internal staircase in adequate fire resisting material and providing an entrance/exit that is separate from the commercial premises.

In any case, the solution taken should be in accordance with the standards detailed in the appropriate HM Government Fire Safety Risk Assessment Guide.

- 2 Failure under Article 9 of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.**
(The Responsible Person must carry out a suitable and sufficient fire risk assessment. This risk assessment must identify the general fire precautions needed to comply with the legislation).

2.1 Failure

The Responsible Person has failed to ensure that the fire risk assessment is suitable and sufficient in the circumstances.

Remedy

The matters identified during the fire safety audit carried out on 1 February 2023 indicate that the existing fire risk assessment is not 'suitable and sufficient'. The fire risk assessment should therefore be reviewed and re-addressed with specific consideration given (but not limited) to the following areas:

- Adequacy of emergency routes and exits
- Adequacy of protection of escape routes
- Adequacy of fire detection and warning system
- Arrangements for the maintenance of the automatic fire detection system at appropriate intervals.
- Regular testing of electrical installations.
- Adequacy of training provided to staff who are expected to use Fire-Fighting Equipment.

DATE REQUIRED - 29 March 2023

Supporting Information

Your risk assessment should adequately address the needs of all people, including disabled people who may be on the premises and ensure that they can safely leave the building in the event of a fire.

For the purposes of identifying the measures to be taken to comply with the relevant legislation, information on how to carry out a fire risk assessment has been published by HM Government in the form of a series of fire risk assessment Guides for different uses of premises. They are available for free download at: <https://www.gov.uk/workplace-fire-safety-your-responsibilities/fire-risk-assessments> or can be purchased at bookshops.

If the Responsible Person feels that they do not have the necessary experience or expertise to do this, they must appoint one or more competent persons to assist them in identifying the general fire precautions needed to comply with the requirements and prohibitions imposed by this Order.

- 3 Failure under Article 13(1)(a) of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.**
(The responsible person must ensure that the premises are equipped with appropriate fire fighting equipment and with fire detectors and alarms).

3.1 Failure

The responsible person has failed to ensure that the existing fire alarm system currently fitted within the premises is adequate in the circumstances and meets current standards

Remedy

Upgrade the current fire alarm system within the premises so as to comply with the standard detailed in the appropriate HM Government Guide. The fire alarm system should comply with BS 5839: Part 1 or equivalent

In the Fire Authority's opinion, a minimum of a BS 5839: Part 1: Category L3 system would be appropriate.

DATE REQUIRED - 1 June 2023

Supporting Information

Further guidance is given within the appropriate HM Government Fire Safety Risk Assessment Guide.

- 4 Failure under Article 14(2)(h) of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.**
(The responsible person must ensure that emergency routes and exits requiring artificial illumination are provided with suitable emergency lighting and that the emergency lighting will operate if the normal lighting fails)

4.1 Failure

The responsible person has failed to ensure that adequate emergency lighting is provided within the emergency exit routes of the premises.

Remedy

Provide emergency lighting throughout the common parts of the premises in accordance with the current BS 5266: Part 1 and the findings of your Fire Risk Assessment.

DATE REQUIRED – 1 June 2023

Supporting Information

Further guidance on the provision of emergency lighting is provided within the appropriate HM Government Fire Safety Risk Assessment Guide

The Fire Authority considers that the above detailed steps will reduce the excessive risk to an acceptable level in the premises. Alternative ways of achieving an equivalent standard may be available and any request for the Fire Authority to consider alternative proposals should be submitted as a matter of urgency.

**NOTES TO ACCOMPANY ENFORCEMENT NOTICE
SERVED UNDER ARTICLE 30 OF THE
REGULATORY REFORM (FIRE SAFETY) ORDER 2005**

1. Contravention of any requirement imposed by an Enforcement Notice is an offence under Article 32 of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 and renders the offender liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum or, on conviction on indictment, to an unlimited fine, or imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or both.
2. In any proceedings for an offence referred to in Note 1, where the commission by any person of an offence under the Order is due to the act or default of some other person, that person is guilty of the offence, and a person may be charged with and convicted of the offence whether or not proceedings are taken against the first mentioned person.
3. Nothing in the Order operates so as to afford an employer a defence in any criminal proceedings for a contravention of those provisions by reason of any act or default of an employee or person nominated to implement measures for fire-fighting and procedures for serious and imminent danger and for danger areas, and appointed to assist him/her in undertaking such preventive and protective measures as necessary.
4. Subject to Note 3, in any proceedings for an offence under the Order, except for a failure to comply with articles 8(a) (Duty to take general fire precautions) or 12 (Elimination or reduction of risks from dangerous substances), it is a defence for the person charged to prove that he/she took all reasonable precautions and exercised due diligence to avoid the commission of such an offence.
5. In any proceedings for an offence under the Order consisting of a failure to comply with a duty or requirement so far as is reasonably practicable, it is for the accused to prove that it was not reasonably practicable to do more than was in fact done to satisfy the duty or requirement.
6. A person on whom an Enforcement Notice is served may under Article 35 of the Order appeal to the Magistrates' Court within 21 days from the date on which the Enforcement Notice was served. The bringing of an appeal has the effect of suspending the operation of the Notice until the appeal is finally disposed of or, if the appeal is withdrawn, until the withdrawal of the appeal.
7. The Fire Authority may grant, at their discretion, an extension (or further extension) of time specified for the steps to be taken if an appeal against the Notice is not pending. Application for an extension of time should be addressed to the above named Officer.
8. If you are the responsible person you are under an obligation to comply with the provisions of the Order or of any regulations made under it. If you have failed to comply and you and the Fire Authority cannot agree on the measures that are necessary to remedy the failure(s), the question may be referred to the Secretary of State for his determination under Article 36 of the Order.
9. To satisfy the 'Environment and Safety Information Act 1988' the Fire Authority is obliged to enter details of this Enforcement Notice into a register to which the public have access. If you feel that any such entry would disclose secret or confidential trade or manufacturing information, then you should appeal in writing to the Authority within a period of fourteen days following; a) the day on which the appeal period in Note 6 above expires, or b) the day on which the appeal is finally disposed of, where an appeal is brought. The following summary of the contents of the Notice will be entered on the public register: -

Served On	Notice Type	Premises Name	Location	Notice Number
01/03/2023	Enforcement	Yew Tree Inn	Chalvington	ESFRS/WE/RE/0301/E1/23

The Public Register can be accessed via the internet at www.esfrs.org and this actual notice may be viewed by clicking on the link shown in the table above.

10. The works or actions specified in the Notice are only intended to ensure a satisfactory standard of fire precautions that will comply with the Order. The Notice is issued without prejudice to any other enforcement action that may be taken by this, or any other, enforcing authority.
11. The Fire Authority would be willing to consider and reasonably assist with any proposals you may have to remedy the matters specified in the Notice.
12. To assist with administration procedures, it would be helpful if you could quote the reference number (at the top of this Notice) when dealing with the Fire Authority.