

Guildhall, Lichfield

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF HIRE

1. All hire charges must be paid in full at least **two weeks** in advance of the booking, unless the Council has agreed alternative payment arrangements in writing. Failure to make payments by the due date will result in cancellation of the booking forthwith.
2. Alterations to event timings and/or layout within 14 days of the event date will be subject to an administrative fee of £50 or 10% of the hire charge, whichever is the greater.
3. Guildhall hire rates are set for each financial year (April to March) by Lichfield City Council. Increases, when applied, tend to be in line with inflation, but this cannot be guaranteed. In the event that a hirer wishes to make a booking that takes place in the following financial year, a hirer may either:
 - a) Request to pay the total cost of the booking and settle the invoice in full to secure the current hire charges
(NOTE: An additional breakages deposit will be payable)
 - b) Pay a deposit to secure the booking/ breakages deposit, and be invoiced at the prevailing room hire rate at a later date

Where a prepaid booking is changed by the hirer to increase the number of hours and/or the provision of additional rooms, these will be charged at the prevailing rate at the time of the request. Where a prepaid booking is changed by the hirer to reduce the length of hire and/or rooms included, the reasons for the request will be considered and a refund may be issued.

This provision applies only to one-off functions such as weddings and cannot be utilised by regular hirers.

4. Confirmed bookings, which are subsequently cancelled by the Hirer, will be subject to the following cancellation charges:
 - (a) Less than 14 days' notice: £24, or 25% of hire charge, whichever is greater.
 - (b) Less than 7 days' notice: full hire charge of booking.
5. The Council reserves the right to refuse any application, and in exceptional circumstances, to cancel any booking at any time, in which event only the fees paid will be refunded.
6. Access is permitted up to 30 minutes prior to, and one hour after, the hire period booked. This time is for setting up and clearing away only, not for the function itself. Additional access time before or after the function is chargeable.
7. Bookings for the Guildroom or Guildhall on Friday and Saturday are subject to a minimum booking charge of 4 hours.
8. Flyposting of functions to be held on the premises is not permitted. Advertisements, posters, placards are not to be displayed on any part of the building without the consent of the Council. Failure to observe this condition may result in cancellation of the booking and loss of deposit.
9. The Hirer shall leave the premises, fixtures and fittings in the condition in which they were found at the time of entry.
10. The Council will not permit temporary notices, signs, tape or blue tac to be fixed to any of the surfaces including walls, ceilings, doors and floors. Any hirer to be found in breach of this condition will be subject to a surcharge. The Hirer shall pay for all damage to the premises, fixtures and fittings during the booking. Such damage to be assessed by the Town Clerk whose decision thereon shall be final.
11. The Council will not be responsible for any damage, injury to, or loss of goods or property brought to the premises for exhibition, sale or other purpose. Nor will it be responsible for goods or property left by the Hirer or persons attending any function, or for damage or injury to the Hirer or any persons being in or about the premises during the hire period. The Hirer does by acceptance of these conditions indemnify the Council against any claims which may be made upon them in respect thereof.
12. The Hirer is responsible for the conduct of all guests and third-party contractors engaged by the hirer, or their representatives.
13. A programme of all music played together with box office receipts and number attending the event must be completed on the proper PRS form and returned to the City Council immediately after each event.
14. Metallic or flower petal confetti must **not** be used in the building or in the close vicinity.
15. The maximum number of persons to be admitted to the Guildhall (Main Hall) shall be:

i) Dancing (ie. no tables or chairs)	please contact the Bookings Officer
ii) Functions where <i>rectangular</i> tables are to be used	130
iii) Functions where <i>round</i> tables are to be used	88
iv) Auditorium style (no tables)	195
16. The maximum number of persons to be admitted to the Guildroom is 70, to the Ashmole Room is 30 and to the Whytmore Room is 25.
17. All functions shall finish not later than 1.00 am except dances that are organised to take place on Saturday or for private profit, when they should cease at midnight.

18. Lichfield District Council has introduced pedestrianisation of the City Centre, which restricts vehicular access to the main entrance of the Guildhall at certain times. Please see link for further information <https://www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/city-centre-regeneration/city-centre-pedestrianisation-proposals>.
19. For access to the rear carpark (unloading only), contact the Council (01543 250011 Mon - Fri 9am – 5pm) or the Caretaker 07816 217151/01543 254684. Event parking is not permitted in the rear carpark, with the exception of one vehicle belonging to your chosen caterer. This must be arranged in advance.
20. Smoking/vaping is not permitted on the premises.
21. All Council crockery and cutlery must be washed thoroughly after use. Should Council staff have to re-wash items a charge will be deducted from the deposit.
22. Hirers may not bring in additional furniture. Soft furnishings may be brought in the building with approval of the Bookings Officer but remain the responsibility of the Hirer.

GENERAL SAFETY

23. The Hirer shall appoint a competent person to oversee the event who shall be assisted as necessary to ensure safety of attendees in the event of fire or panic. They shall have a copy of the Guildhall Evacuation Procedure (supplied with the booking confirmation). Any instruction given by the Council regarding the safety of the public shall be put into immediate effect.
24. In the event of an emergency, authorised Officers of the Council, Police Officers and Officers of the Fire Brigade shall be admitted immediately.
25. All exits and corridors shall be kept free from obstruction.
26. Temporary decorations and electrical installations shall not be used without the prior written consent of the Council. Gas filled balloons, party poppers and smoke machines are not permitted because they may interfere with smoke alarms, causing building evacuation.
27. Real candles and tealights are not permitted. LED candles can be used as an alternative.
28. All fabric items (e.g., scenery, cloths, draperies, floral decorations, hangings, curtains) shall be non-flammable.
29. For safety and security, a CCTV system operates in the building. CCTV cameras must not be obscured but specific cameras may be disabled on written request to the Council.
30. Any portable electrical equipment brought on to the premises shall be in good working order, appropriately PAT tested and used only in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
31. No inflammable substance shall be brought into the building without the Council's prior written consent.

HIRE OF FIRST FLOOR KITCHEN

The following items of crockery and cutlery are available for use by the Hirer:

Knives	200
Forks	200
Spoons	200
Teaspoons	130
Dinner plates	170
Side plates	170
Bowls	170
Small white milk jugs	15
Small white sugar bowls	12
Clear glass jugs	20
Cups	170
Saucers	170

The Hirer/caterer is responsible for supplying their own baking trays and any other cooking equipment.

Please note that the Hirer is responsible for providing tea/coffee.