

Guide to the Use Classes Order (England)

USE CLASS	DESCRIPTION	PERMITTED CHANGE	USE CLASS	DESCRIPTION	PERMITTED CHANGE	USE CLASS	DESCRIPTION	PERMITTED CHANGE
A1 SHOPS	Shops, post offices, travel agencies & ticket agencies, hairdressers, funeral directors & undertakers, domestic hire shops, dry cleaners, internet cafés, sandwich bars (where sandwiches or other cold food are to be consumed off the premises)	No permitted change*	B1 BUSINESS	a) Offices, other than a use within Class A2 (Financial and Professional Services) b) Research and development of products or processes c) Light industry	B1(a) change to C3 residential** Up to 500 sqm permitted change to B8 Over 500 sqm no permitted change*	C3 DWELLINGS	Use as a dwelling (whether or not as a sole or a main residence and whether or not building contains one or multiple dwellings) by: a) a single person or people living together as a family, or b) up to six people living together as a single household and receiving care c) up to six people living together as a single household	Permitted change to C4
A2 FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	Financial services: banks, building societies & bureau de change Professional services (other than health or medical services): estate agents & employment agencies Other services which it is appropriate to provide in a shopping area: betting shops (where the services are provided principally to visiting members of the public)	Permitted change to A1 (where there is a ground floor display window*)	B2 GENERAL INDUSTRY	General industry: use for the carrying out of an industrial process other than one falling in class B1	Up to 500 sqm permitted change to B1 or B8 Over 500 sqm permitted change to B1 only	C4 HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION	Shared dwelling houses occupied by between 3 – 6 unrelated individuals, as their only or main residence, who share basic amenities such as kitchen or bathroom	Permitted change to C3
A3 RESTAURANTS AND CAFES	Restaurants & cafés (i.e. places where the primary purpose is the sale and consumption of food and light refreshment on the premises) - this excludes internet cafés which are now A1	Permitted change to A1 or A2*	B8 STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION	Use for storage or distribution centre including outdoor storage	Up to 500 sqm permitted change to B1 Over 500 sqm no permitted change	D1 NON-RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS	Clinics & health centres, crèches, day nurseries & day centres, museums, public libraries, art galleries & exhibition halls, law courts, non-residential education & training centres, places of worship, religious instruction & church halls	No permitted change*
A4 PUBS AND BARS	Public houses, wine bars or other drinking establishments (i.e. premises where the primary purpose is the sale and consumption of alcoholic drinks on the premises)	Permitted change to A1, A2 or A3*	C1 HOTELS	Use as a hotel, boarding house or guesthouse, where no significant element of care is provided	No permitted change	D2 ASSEMBLY & LEISURE	Cinema, concert hall, bingo hall, dance hall, swimming bath, skating rink, gymnasium, or area for indoor or outdoor sports or recreation (not involving motor vehicles or firearms)	No permitted change
A5 HOT FOOD TAKEAWAY	Hot food take-aways (i.e. premises where the primary purpose is the sale of hot food to take-away)	Permitted change to A1, A2 or A3*	C2 RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS	Hospital, nursing home or residential school, college or training centre where they provide residential accommodation and care to people in need of care (other than those within C3 dwellings)	No permitted change	SUI GENERIS	Uses which do not fall within any use class, including (not exhaustive): theatres, nightclubs, casinos, retail warehouse clubs, amusement arcades, launderettes, larger HMOs than C4, petrol filling stations and motor car showrooms	Casinos permitted change to D2 Otherwise no permitted change
			C2a SECURE RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS	Use for a provision of secure residential accommodation, including use as a prison, young offenders institution, detention centre, secure training centre, custody centre, short term holding centre, secure hospital, secure local authority accommodation or use as a military barracks	No permitted change			

* Two year flexible change to A1, A2, A3 or B1 available up to 150 sqm

** Subject to prior notice process, some excluded areas, change must occur before 30 May 2016