STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2026 No. 792

LICENCES AND LICENSING, ENGLAND AND WALES

The Licensing Act 2003 (FIFA World Cup Licensing Hours) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2026

Made - - - -	*10th July 2026*
Coming into force - -	*11th July 2026*
Laid before Parliament	*13th July 2026*

The Secretary of State makes this Order in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 172(1) and (3)(b) and (c) and 197(2)(b) and (c) of the Licensing Act 2003(**a**).

The Secretary of State considers that the celebration period in relation to which this Order is made marks an occasion of exceptional national significance.

The Secretary of State has consulted such persons as the Secretary of State considers appropriate in accordance with section 172(4) of the Licensing Act 2003.

Citation, commencement and extent

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Licensing Act 2003 (FIFA World Cup Licensing Hours) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2026 and comes into force on 11th July 2026.

(2) This Order extends to England and Wales.

Amendment of the Licensing Act 2003 (FIFA World Cup Licensing Hours) Order 2026

2.—(1) The Licensing Act 2003 (FIFA World Cup Licensing Hours) Order 2026(**b**) is amended as follows.

(2) In article 2—

(a) the existing text becomes paragraph (1), and

(b) after paragraph (1) insert—

"(2) Where the conditions in paragraph (3) are satisfied, the end of the period in sub-paragraphs (l) to (p) of paragraph (1) is extended to the earlier of—

(a) thirty minutes after the conclusion (or abandonment) of the match referred to in the relevant sub-paragraph, or

(**a**) 2003 c. 17. Section 197(3), (4) and (5) of that Act were amended by section 1 of the Licensing Hours Extensions Act 2026 (c. 4).

(**b**) S.I. 2026/520. Article 2(g) and (p) were amended by S.I. 2026/742.

(b) 12 noon on the day following the day on which the match begins.

(3) The conditions in this paragraph are—

(a) a match referred to in sub-paragraphs (l) to (p) of paragraph (1), has begun in the period starting with the scheduled start time referred to in the relevant sub-paragraph and ending at 12 noon the next day, and

(b) the conclusion of the match is delayed so that the match will not conclude before thirty minutes before the end of the period specified in that sub-paragraph.

(4) Where a match referred to in sub-paragraphs (l) to (p) of paragraph (1) is—

(a) postponed to begin on a day other than the day on which it was scheduled to start (except where the conditions in paragraph (3) are satisfied), or

(b) abandoned and later resumed, or re-played, on a day other than the day on which it was scheduled to start,

the period specified in paragraph (5) is also a "specified time" for the purposes of article 3.

(5) The period specified in this paragraph is the period in relation to the day on which the match is played, resumed or re-played which—

(a) begins—

(i) on a Sunday, at 10 p.m.,

(ii) on all other days, at 11 p.m., and

(b) ends at the later of—

(i) 1 a.m. the following day, or

(ii) thirty minutes after the conclusion of the match referred to in paragraph (4)."

Mike Tapp
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
Home Office

10th July 2026

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order amends the Licensing Act 2003 (FIFA World Cup Licensing Hours) Order 2026 ("the 2026 Order") to make further provision in connection with the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

The Order maintains the existing extensions applicable to quarter-final matches, semi-final matches, the third-place play-off match and the final match involving England. It provides for the existing extensions to be varied where there is a delay in finishing a match which has started, so that licensing hours are extended until half an hour after the game has concluded (or noon the following day if that is sooner).

It also provides that where a match is postponed to, resumed or re-played on a day other than the day it is scheduled to take place, that there will be licensing extensions on that day. Should that arise, the extension period begins at 10 p.m. where the match is scheduled to begin on a Sunday and at 11 p.m. on any other day. The extension period ends at 1 a.m. the following day (or 30 minutes after the conclusion of the match if that is later).

The amendments are intended to ensure that the licensing hours extensions continue to operate appropriately where the start of a relevant match is delayed, where a match overruns its scheduled duration, or where a relevant match is postponed or resumed beyond the period covered by the original extension.

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument because it makes a limited and targeted amendment to the existing licensing hours extensions provided by the Licensing Act 2003 (FIFA World Cup Licensing Hours) Order 2026, as amended. The expected impacts are likely to be similar to those previously assessed.

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