

LOCKDOWN 2

Advice notes for clubs & fisheries

Published 06/11/2020



Under the November 5th 2020 Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) Regulations fishing is deemed a permissible form of outdoor recreation and a 'lawful excuse' to leave home. This has been confirmed by ministers and in subsequent government guidance.

<https://www.sportengland.org/news/national-restrictions-our-support-during-period>

The regulations allow people *"to visit a public outdoor space for the purposes of open air recreation" and this is defined as an 'outdoor place to which the public have, or are permitted, access (whether on payment or otherwise)."*

https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2020/1200/pdfs/ukxi_20201200_en.pdf

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The Angling Trust has advised that this includes riverbanks, towpaths, beaches and stillwaters that can either be accessed freely or on the payment of a day ticket or subscription levied by the owner or leased to a publicly available fishing association.

Fisheries are **not on the published list** of businesses that the government has ordered to close and we believe there is no reason that they should do so providing that they operate in accordance with the rules. There is also included a **non-exhaustive list** of businesses that can remain open and we are in discussions with Government about clarifying their guidance by specifically adding fisheries to this list. It remains the case that if Government really wanted fisheries to close they would have said so in the regulations.

However, all indoor or social facilities in any way connected with a fishing venue must close and fishing tackle shops, whether onsite or not, can only operate a 'click and collect' service.

As a national governing body the Angling Trust is charged with interpreting the Government's guidelines as they impact on recreational fishing. Fisheries remain free to seek their own advice.

HELP AND SUPPORT

We're here to help you get
continue fishing safely

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www.anglingtrust.net/covid-19

