



**Rochford District
Council**

Guide to the Use Classes Order and Permitted Changes of Use

A Planning Services Information Leaflet

Guide to the Use Classes Order and Permitted Changes of Use

The following table provides details of the various categories identified in the Use Classes (Amendment) Order 2005. Change of use is permitted within a specific class provided that the use subsists, the planning permission has been implemented and no restrictive condition is attached to the consent.

The changes listed in the third column are permitted and do not require planning permission where all the criteria set out in the General Permitted Development Order 1995 (as amended in 2005) are met and no restrictive conditions apply.

This table is intended to be a general guide to the provisions of the Use Classes Order and you are advised to contact the planning department to discuss your proposals.

Use Classes 2005	Description	Permitted Changes
A1	Shops Shops, retail warehouses, post offices, travel agents, hairdressers, funeral directors, dry cleaners, internet cafes, etc.	No permitted changes
A2	Financial and professional services Banks, building societies, estate and employment agencies, betting offices, and other financial and professional services.	Permitted change to A1
A3	Restaurants and Cafes Restaurants, snack bars, cafes	Permitted change to A1 or A2
A4	Drinking Establishments Pubs and bars	Permitted change to A1, A2 or A3
A5	Hot Food Take-Aways Take-Aways and fast-food premises	Permitted change to A1, A2 or A3
Sui Generis	Shops selling and/or displaying motor vehicles, retail warehouse clubs, laundrettes, taxi or vehicle hire businesses, amusement centres, petrol filling stations	No permitted change

Use Classes 2005	Description	Permitted Changes
B1	Business Offices (not within A2), research and development, studios, laboratories, high tech, light industry (appropriate in a residential area)	Permitted change to B8 where no more than 235 metres
B2	General industry	Permitted change to B1 or B8 (B8 limited to no more than 235 metres)
B8	Storage & Distribution Wholesale warehouse, distribution centres, repositories	Permitted change to B1 where no more than 235 metres
Sui Generis	Any work that requires to be registered under the Alkali, etc. Works Regulation Act, 1906	No permitted change
C1	Hotels Hotels, boarding and guest houses where no significant element of care is provided	No permitted change

Use Classes 2005	Description	Permitted Changes
C2	Residential institutions Hospitals, convalescent nursing homes, residential schools and colleges	No permitted change
C3	Dwelling Houses Dwellings (six or less residents living together as a family), small businesses at home, communal housing of elderly and handicapped	No permitted change
Sui Generis	Hostels	No permitted change
D1	Non-residential institutions Places of worship, church halls, clinics, health centres, crèches, day nurseries, consulting rooms, museums, public halls, libraries, art galleries, exhibition halls, non-residential education and training centres	No permitted change

Use Classes 2005	Description	Permitted Changes
D2	Assembly and leisure Cinemas, music and concert halls, dance, sports halls, swimming baths skating rinks, gymnasiums, other indoor and outdoor sports and leisure uses, bingo halls, casinos	No permitted change
Sui Generis	Theatres and nightclubs	No permitted change

Contact Details for Planning

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