

FACT SHEET

Starting a Mobile Food Business



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Who needs a Mobile Food Business Licence?

Businesses that handle food for sale from mobile premises are subject to the same licensing requirements as those who operate out of fixed premises.

Examples of licensable mobile food businesses include:

- Mobile food vans or trailers
- Ice cream vans
- Smoko vans selling unpackaged pies etc.
- Unpackaged food from a vending machine
- Water carriers – a separate fact sheet applies to this business type

Mobile food businesses are only required to hold a food business licence with one Queensland local government to operate throughout Queensland.

Licence Exemptions

Certain activities do not require a licence, including selling only prepackaged food, tea and coffee, ice or flavoured ice (e.g., slushies) and some low-risk snack foods.

Anyone providing food for sale has an obligation under the *Food Act 2006* (the Act) and the *Australian New Zealand Food Standards Code* (the Code) to ensure that the food is safe and suitable for consumption regardless of whether a licence is required.

Application Requirements

To obtain a food business licence you must submit an 'Application for Food Business Licence' to Council for assessment, together with:

- Application fees
- Relevant plans. Refer to the *Design and fit-out guide for food businesses* for minimum design requirements (it is recommended that plans be submitted to Council for assessment prior to commencing construction to avoid costly design errors)
- Food Safety Supervisor nomination and evidence of qualifications

A copy of *Design and fit-out guide for food businesses* and food safety supervisor requirements are available on the Banana Shire Council website link located below under [More Information](#).

Permitted and regulated locations

There are several locations that mobile food businesses typically trade from which may require additional approvals.

- Markets and events – these are the best locations for operating food businesses. You will need to deal directly with the event organiser.
- Private property – operating on private properties such as workplaces is permitted providing the business moves on after trading with that workplace. If intending to sell to external customers from a private property including your own home, further Council approval may be required.

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- Council Parks – Generally mobile food vehicles are not permitted to trade from Council land unless for the purpose of a previously approved event (e.g., markets).
- Roadside – A roadside vending permit is required to operate from a Council roadside. If on state-controlled roads, approval will need to be obtained from the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads and a Letter of No Objection may be required to be obtained from Council.
- An Itinerant Vending Permit is required for businesses wishing to travel from place to place selling goods once hailed down by customers (e.g., ice cream truck).

More information

Fact sheets, application forms and fees and charges are available on Council's website:

www.banana.qld.gov.au/council-services/food.

Extensive resources to determine when a licence is required and to assist you in starting and running a food business can be found at the Food Pantry website:

<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/staying-healthy/food-pantry>

Contact Council's Environmental Health Team for further information or to book a pre-lodgment inspection.

How can you contact us?



online, visit www.banana.qld.gov.au
click on 'Contact us'



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