

Hertfordshire Development Centre

Terms and Conditions

July 2022

1. Confirmed booking – the booking contract

You will receive an email confirmation of your booking together with a unique booking ID. This email will signify that the booking is confirmed with HDC and that you agree to pay charges as given in the contract. If there are any changes to or cancellation of the booking contract by you, then the relevant cancellation charges will apply in accordance with clauses 9 and 10 of these conditions. HDC reserves the right to refuse a booking.

2. Price increases

HDC prices and terms and conditions are regularly reviewed in line with Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) pricing policies. When you book, you agree to pay our charges at the current rate applicable at the start date of the booking. HDC reserves the right to amend quoted rates at any time up to the start of your event, providing you have been contacted in writing to inform you of those changes. HDC will notify you of any changes to terms and conditions via email to the address provided at the time of booking.

3. Final catering booking details

HDC requires final details of numbers, food catering and day delegate rate (DDR) 11 working days in advance of the event. These booking details will form the minimum for which you will be charged. If HDC does not receive the booking details 11 working days before your event, charges will be based on the most recent information given. Any subsequent increase in requirements will be subject to an additional charge. Beverage numbers can be changed up to 1 full working day before the date of your event.

4. Changes to Terms and Conditions by HDC

All changes to HDC terms and conditions, including price increases and the cancellation policy, will apply to all future and existing bookings, from the date given with the written notification of change. Any updates to these terms and conditions will be given in writing via email to all bookers. Current copies of HDC terms and conditions can be found on the HDC intranet pages and external internet pages and can be requested at any time by contacting HDC directly. An updated booking contract can be requested from HDC at any time.

5. Extra catering or other facilities

If you ask for extra catering or other facilities within 5 working days of your booking, HDC will use its best efforts to provide them, but cannot guarantee that it will be able to meet your requests. You should contact HDC about increases in numbers as soon as possible.

6. Car parking

Parking spaces for HDC delegates and visitors will be available in the underground staff carpark; Disabled spaces are available on the upper level, outside the main entrance. Materials and equipment may be unloaded on the upper level, but vehicles must be moved to an available space as soon as possible.

Parking spaces are limited and controlled. Whilst every effort will be made to allocate a parking space, in the event of none being available, HCC has no obligation to provide parking for visitors to the training centre. HDC is easily accessible by public transport, being approximately a 10-minute walk from Stevenage bus and railway stations. Users of this car park do so entirely at their own risk. Hertfordshire County Council does not accept any liability for theft of vehicles or loss from and/or damage to vehicles and their contents howsoever caused whilst using this car park. Delegates not wishing to make use of the car park may choose to park their vehicles in a public car park within the Stevenage area at their own cost.

7. VAT

The prices quoted are exclusive of VAT. For all non-HCC customers VAT, at the current government rate at the time of the event, will be added to the final invoice.

8. Paying for your booking

Our payment terms are 30 days from invoice for commercial and partner organisations. For internal HCC bookings charges will be posted monthly through journal transfer.

9. Covid-19 cancellation charges

HDC will not be held liable for incidental costs incurred due to the cancelling or amending a booking. Our standard cancellation terms (item 10.) will apply except where Government restrictions force closure.

10. Cancellations / amendments to bookings

All notification of cancellations for room, equipment or catering bookings must be communicated to HDC by email. (NB: Notice period refers to the date of cancellation up to but NOT including the date of the event. If numbers for an event fall drastically, HDC reserves the right to relocate the booking to alternative space within the venue as best fits the revised numbers). Cancellation charges will apply as follows:

a) Room* and / or equipment hire

Number of days prior to event	Proportion of total cost for which you are liable
16 working days or more notice	0%
15 working days or less notice	100%

*With exception of the Oak room and associated breakout rooms.

Please note that any specialist equipment ordered for your event will be liable for 100% cancellation charge from the point of booking

b) Oak room and associated breakout rooms bookings:

Number of days prior to event	Proportion of total cost for which you are liable
31 working days or more notice	0%
30 working days or less notice	100%

c) Food catering (incl. day delegate rate) bookings:

Number of days prior to event	Proportion of total cost for which you are liable
11 working days or more notice	0%
10 working days or less notice	100%

d) Non-alcoholic beverage requirements:

Number of days prior to event	Proportion of total cost for which you are liable
More than 1 full working days' notice	0%
Less than 1 full working days' notice	100%

11. Food and drink

Our charges are calculated on the basis that we will provide, in partnership with our catering company, all food and drink that you or your party require. You must NOT provide any other member of your party with food or drink whilst on the HDC premises as this would contravene our contractual agreement with the catering company and you will be charged accordingly.

12. Alcohol

HDC is not licensed to sell alcohol in the training centre rooms. Please contact the Centre Management Team to discuss obtaining a temporary license for your event.

13. Termination of a booking

If a booking is cancelled for any reason beyond its control, HDC will accept no liability whatsoever for any loss on your part.

14. Equality and diversity

HDC is part of HCC and as such is committed to providing Equality and Diversity across all its services and among its workforce. Booking at HDC means that you will agree to these terms and conditions and be responsible for ensuring the trainers and delegates at your event are aware of this responsibility. This includes all the key equality strands of disability, race, religion and belief, sexual orientation, and carers