

FIREWORK LEGISLATION

Firework law is mainly governed by the Fireworks Regulations 2004 (under powers delegated from the Fireworks Act 2003), the Pyrotechnic Articles (Safety) Regulations 2015.

To paraphrase

It is an offence to:

- possess adult fireworks (all fireworks except category 1 fireworks - party poppers, sparklers, throw-downs etc.) in a public place by anyone under the age of 18; Categories go from 1 through to 4. 4 being the large expensive professional show fireworks.
- possess category 4 fireworks (professional display fireworks) by anyone other than a fireworks professional;
- it is illegal to supply adult fireworks to those under 18;
- throw or cast or fire any firework in or into any highway, street, thoroughfare or public space (this would include throwing or firing from a private place into a public place, street, highway etc);
- to light any fire or discharge any firearm or firework (without lawful authority or excuse) within 50 feet of the centre of a highway which consists of or comprises a carriageway, and as a consequence the highway is damaged.

There is a curfew on the use of adult fireworks between 11pm and 7am, except on:

- Bonfire Night (when the curfew is between 12 midnight and 7am);
- New Year's Eve (when the curfew is between 1am and 7am);
- Chinese New Year (when the curfew is between 1am and 7am);
- Diwali Night (when the curfew is between 1am and 7am).

Buying fireworks

You can only buy fireworks (including sparklers) from registered sellers for private use on these dates:

- 15 October to 10 November
- 26 to 31 December
- 3 days before Diwali and Chinese New Year

At other times you can only buy fireworks from licensed shops.

If the complaint is regarding noise offences outside the above laws it would be necessary to contact the environmental health at Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council.

Advice from the BVA regarding fireworks and animals can be found on the below link

https://www.bva.co.uk/uploadedFiles/Content/News,_campaigns_and_policies/Policies/Companion_animals/fireworks-and-animals-policy-position.pdf