

Guide to changing ‘main town centre uses’ via permitted development rights from 25 May 2019

This is intended as a quick reference guide. Please refer to the latest versions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) (Schedule 2 Part 3: Changes of Use) and the Use Classes Order 1987 (as amended) before acting or refraining from acting and do not rely on the below. There are no permitted development rights to change to use class A5 or to a pay day loan shop or betting shop, and there are no permitted development rights to permanently change from use class D2. The table below is not comprehensive, and notably does not include permitted development rights relating to casinos or amusement centres or for temporary changes of use.

Permanent changes of use



Permitted development, no prior approval needed
(*with limitations/conditions)



Permitted development subject to prior approval (and limitations and conditions)



Planning application required

	To A1	To A2	To A3	To A4	To B1(a)	To C3	To D2
From A1		Class D	Class C		Class JA	Class M	Class J
From A2	Class E*		Class C		Class JA	Class M	Class J
From A3	Class A	Class A		Change from mixed use A3/A4 permitted, currently Class AA			
From A4			Change to mixed use A3/A4 permitted, currently Class AA				
From A5	Class A	Class A	Class B		Class JA	Class M	
From B1 (a)						Class O	
From pay day loan/ betting shop	Class E*	Class F	Class C		Class JA	Class M	Class J
From launderette					Class JA	Class M	

*Class E PDRs require an existing display window at ground floor level.

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Thames Valley

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