

Issue 6 – 2010:  
How Licensing Applies to Businesses  
with Common Governance /  
Connected Groups of Companies

**This Brief explains how licensing applies to businesses with common governance / connected groups of companies.**

**Multiple businesses or connected groups of companies who are currently covered by one licence are required to be licensed individually.**

## GLA Position

The GLA has recently reviewed its policy for granting single licences to cover multiple businesses. The GLA will no longer consider any new applications for licences to cover more than one legal entity.

The general principle is: **each licence will cover one legal entity.**

For any existing licences which cover multiple businesses, this change will take effect from 1 September 2010. From that date, existing licence holders will be expected to move to separate licences at their first renewal date after 1 September 2010 or by 1 March 2011 at the latest, whichever date is earliest.

Companies with multiple branches can still be covered by one licence provided the branches are part of the same single business entity (that is they all have the same Companies House number).

Businesses with franchises may be affected: if the franchisee is a separate legal entity from the franchisor then that franchise will need to be licensed individually.

Any current licence holder affected by this position should contact the GLA immediately in order to discuss their situation.

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