

Add a SIC code to your business and let the events industry be counted

One of the (many) reasons that many parts of the industry have been excluded from support by the government is because from a statistics point of view, the industry is “invisible” with a lack of relevant Standard Industrial Classification of economic activities (SIC) codes. Equally, most of us have been unaware to how important they are when it comes to the government analysing businesses.

beam has been working with other UKEvents partners, including AEO, Evcom and PLASA, campaigning for changes to these codes to make them more relevant. However, that is going to take between three to five years as they are agreed internationally.

In the meantime, to create our own yardstick that we can monitor and use to inform the government in the future, **we are asking every company involved in the events industry to include at least one code from the selection below in addition to that which you currently use.**

In the UK, you can register up to four codes with Companies House, although most businesses only use one, and for many, this is not always relevant as the descriptions are not well matched. Equally, by using more than one, you can retain any existing key sector category but **use the additional codes to flag your connection to the events sector.**

The idea is to get all companies involved in ALL aspects of the events industry to use these codes - **to help create data and visibility and to demonstrate how financially significant the industry is.**

We are aware that the descriptions that go with these codes are unlikely to be totally accurate to many of your businesses and we are campaigning to get the descriptions made ‘wider’. But in the meantime, we believe they will help achieve our aim of improving data and visibility.

We urge all organisations - agencies and suppliers - involved in the business events, accommodation and meetings sector to do this when you file your next confirmation statement with Companies House. Many beam members are already using 82302 and this is likely to be the most appropriate code of the five included in this initiative.

The five codes are:

82301: Activities of exhibition and fair organisers.

This subclass includes the organisation, promotion and/or management of events, such as business and trade shows and conventions, whether or not including the management and provision of the staff to operate the facilities in which these events take place. [Click here to find out more](#)

82302: Activities of conference organisers.

This subclass includes the organisation of conferences and meetings, whether or not including the management and provision of the staff to operate the facilities in which these events take place. [Click here to find out more](#)

56210: Event catering activities.

This class includes the provision of food services based on contractual arrangements with the customer, at the location specified by the customer, for a specific event. [Click here to find out more](#)

68202: Letting and operating of conference and exhibition centres

90020 Currently classified as: **Support activities to performing arts**

This subclass includes support activities to performing arts for production of live theatrical presentations, concerts and opera or dance productions and other stage productions; activities of directors, producers, stage-set designers and builders, scene shifters, lighting engineers etc.; activities of producers or entrepreneurs of arts live events, with or without facilities. [Click here to find out more](#)

Any questions ? Please get in touch via membership@beam-org.uk