



Leicester

City Council

Busking and Street Entertainment in Leicester - Code of Practice (short version)

Busking and Street Entertainment requires those involved to share public space with shoppers, workers, businesses, residents and others. This code of practice sets out expectations designed to ensure that public space in the city centre is used and shared responsibly

Respect for Others - Our Expectations

1. When choosing a location to perform be aware of who and what is around you. We expect you to set up a reasonable distance away from other performers, street preachers, or users e.g. charities. Be sensitive to nearby businesses, offices and residences.
2. We expect you to use any noise amplification equipment or musical instruments in a responsible and considerate manner. You must take care not to perform or use amplification/equipment in a manner which is intrusive or repetitive or unreasonable in the circumstances. Be aware of the environment around you and the timing of your performance – this is especially important early in the day and in the evenings. This is because the background sound levels are likely to be lower than at other times. Please note that it is an offence to use a loudspeaker or amplification in the street between 9pm and 8am without our permission.
3. We expect you to maintain public safety and access – you must make sure that people can move past your performance easily and it is your responsibility to ensure that your crowd is well managed.
4. We expect buskers and street entertainers not to block or obstruct doorways and entrances to shops and businesses. We expect you not to obstruct the free flow of pedestrian traffic and access ways, cycle stands, bus stops etc. We do not

permit performers to use street furniture belonging to us. This includes lamp posts, benches, railing etc.

5. We expect buskers and street entertainers to share and swap popular performance spaces with each other. We expect you to cooperate with each other and agree changeovers without argument.
6. We expect buskers and street entertainers not to perform in the vicinity of a major event or perform near another space or pitch in respect of which the City Council has accepted a booking and the organiser has paid to use the public space in question. (*You can check whether a major event is planned or a public space has been booked by visiting <https://www.leicester.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/festivals-and-events/>*)
7. We expect performers not to erect any marquees tents gazebo, tables or use any other type of structure to support their performance.
8. We expect performers not to sell merchandise unless they have obtained a valid Street Trading Licence or to hand out leaflets, CD's, USB stick and other 'freebies' without a valid 'distribution of Free Printed Matter Consent' from the City Council.
9. We expect performers not to display signs on the pavement (except where a collection or charity has been authorised by the Council or Charity Commission).
10. We recommend that all performers have suitable Public Liability Insurance. This is offered by Insurance Companies or brokers and is included as part of the membership of the Musicians Union and Equity.

Conflict Resolution

Our expectations are that complaints are resolved between individuals informally in a respectful and amicable manner.

We will invoke our enforcement powers where there is a serious breach of the expectations set out in this Code of Practice. We may also use our enforcement powers if there is a repeated breach of one or more of the expectations set out in this code.

***Full version of the Code of Conduct can be found at
<https://www.leicester.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/festivals-and-events/>***