BARNSLEY
Metropolitan Borough Council

Code of Conduct for Buskers and Street Performers

Whilst Barnsley Council welcomes activity which enhances the experience and atmosphere of the high street, it is important that the needs and requirements of other high street users such as businesses, shoppers, residents, and other artists are taken into consideration. The Place Management team request that all performers act as 'a good neighbour' and comply with the following code of conduct:

Code of Conduct

- Children under the age of 14 are not allowed to busk, we would recommend young people under the age of 16 be accompanied by an adult.

- Specific area zones are allocated for busking except for when pre-booked events/activities are taking place in Barnsley town centre. The following areas will permit 1 busker per zone with a recommendation of a 100m gap between performers:

  Zone 1 - Cheapside
  Zone 2 - Queen Street
  Zone 3 - May Day Green
  Zone 4 - Peel Square
  Zone 5 - Market Street
  Zone 6 - Albert Street

- When selecting your pitch please avoid blocking access to shops, offices, residences, and fire escapes as well as other amenities such as cash machines and telephone boxes.

- Please be respectful to street traders including The Big Issue vendors: we recommend at least a 20m gap.

- You are responsible for ensuring that your presence does not cause an obstruction of the highway including the gathering of crowds, preventing any trip hazards from your equipment, this includes the placing of donation hats or buckets.

- We ask that you do not perform for longer than three hours. This is to respect residents, workers, and other users of our high streets.

- Amplification is not encouraged as it often generates several complaints. We ask that noise levels throughout your performance are kept at a reasonable level to avoid being asked to lower the volume or cease performing altogether.

- You should have a varied repertoire so as not to cause undue nuisance to residents, retailers, or any other users. Ensure your performances are not delivered in a manner that is dangerous to yourself or anyone else.

- Barnsley is a family friendly borough, and a performer's actions, appearance, dress, lyrics, script, or props must not be of a nature that could cause offence or alarm to other users of our high streets.

- We appreciate members of the public may wish to contribute for enjoyable performances, you must not actively solicit monetary contributions, this includes signs or the passing around of a hat.

- Care must be taken in protecting your own equipment and/or any contributions gained.

- The selling of any merchandise including CD's is not permitted.

- Performers must comply immediately to any request made by the Town Centre Wardens, South Yorkshire Police, or any officer of Barnsley Council, this may involve lowering the volume, moving locations or even cease performing altogether.

Any additional enquiries regarding busking and street entertaining in Barnsley's high streets or you are a large group who wish to hire dedicated event space, please contact the Place Management team at: PlaceManagement@barnsley.gov.uk