

Busking and Street Entertainment

Encouraging further vibrancy within Letchworth Garden City



Issued by the Letchworth Garden City BID

Busking and Street Entertainment Policy and Code of Conduct

Introduction

The Letchworth Garden City BID supports and encourages busking and street entertainment in central areas of the town centre in order to animate our public spaces and add vibrancy.

This Busking and Street Entertainment Policy and registration scheme sets the standards expected in Letchworth Garden City.

This policy only applies to areas covered by the Letchworth Garden City BID Premises License as identified on the map enclosed. Areas owned by others, such as the shopping centres, do not fall within this policy and separate permissions may be required.

Busking under the age of 18 is not encouraged but anyone under 18 that wishes to busk should either be accompanied by their parent/guardian or have a letter of consent with them confirming their parent/guardian's consent.

Busking does not generally require licensing under the Licensing Act 2003.

Feedback

This new policy welcomes feedback via events@lovelethworth.com

Code of Conduct

The Letchworth Garden City BID hopes that this new policy will add value and busking and street entertainment are welcomed. A voluntary Code of Conduct (page 2) has been developed and The Letchworth Garden City BID encourages all performers to adhere to it.

Complaints and Noise Disturbances:

Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, noise from musical instruments in the street may be a statutory nuisance. Legal action may be taken to stop the noise and stop or restrict it happening again. This could include seizing musical instruments and amplification equipment.

The Letchworth Garden City BID recognises that occasionally, busking and street entertainment may be considered a nuisance. Whilst the code of conduct for buskers and street entertainers is aiming to minimise this, the reporting of these issues is important. On such an occasion, please use the following:

Online: <http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/home/environmental-health/pollution/noise-smoke-and-other-nuisances>

Telephone: Call Hertfordshire Constabulary on **101** to report obstruction or offensive behaviour.





The Code of Conduct for buskers and street entertainers

Please do:

1. Only perform on areas covered by the Letchworth Garden City BID Premises License (map below).
2. Entertain only between 10am and 8pm.
3. Entertain the public and have a good time.
4. Protect yourselves by taking out Public Liability Insurance.

Please do not:

5. Use mains or generator power for amplification. Busking must not be intrusive or be a nuisance to nearby premises (as prescribed in the Environmental Protection Act 1990). Music or voices should not be heard plainly at a distance of 50 metres.
6. Busk for more than 1 hour in any one place.
7. Obstruct the highway (road, pavement or open pedestrian area). You are responsible for ensuring that any people gathering to watch or listen to you do not obstruct the highway.
8. Block access to shops, offices, residencies or fire escapes, or other amenities, such as cash machines or telephone boxes.
9. Attach any structure to the street furniture, e.g. public seats, lamp posts, railings.
10. Busk within 100 metres of another busker or group of buskers.
11. Perform acts involving fire, knives, weapons, striptease or nudity, live animals (other than

registered assistance dogs).

12. Sell CDs or other merchandise without a street trading license.
13. Actively encourage donations or payment for performing.
14. Perform in a manner that is dangerous to yourself or to the public.
15. Act in a way, say something or use language that is likely to cause offense to a member of the public.

The Letchworth Garden City BID wish to encourage buskers and street entertainers to perform in Letchworth town centre public spaces, however entertainers must immediately comply with a request by an employee of the BID or an Officer of North Hertfordshire District Council or Hertfordshire Constabulary to lower volume, move location or cease busking.

Contact for any enquiries:

Patricia Saunders BID
Manager
bid@lovelethworth.com

Please note - If you are unable to make a booking we would need at least 48 hours' notice. Failure to turn up for your allocated time may result in cancellation or refusal of future bookings .



Map of Busking Areas in Letchworth Town Centre



Busking areas in Letchworth Town Centre:

- A. Outside Satchells Estate Agents/Platform Pub Side
- B. Leys Square (Esquires Coffee House side)
- C. The Wynd (By the children's play area)
- D. At the bottom of Leys Avenue
- E. Eastcheap – opposite Heart to Heart/seating area