

The Busker's Code

Busking is a long-established tradition which adds to the attractiveness and colour of the town which Frome Town Council hopes to encourage. This code of conduct covers all forms of street performance including theatre, poetry and other speakers.

The Busker's Code sets out good practice and will allow busking to thrive. Good practice ensures that Buskers:

- Perform for no more than one hour at a time and shall move onto another pitch at least 50 metres away
- Won't set up pitch within 50 metres of another busker
- Won't amplify their performance to a level that can be heard from more than 30 metres away
- Won't obstruct the flow of people or vehicles in the street, fire exits, cash points or doorways
- Won't actively solicit contributions from people passing by
- Should reduce the volume if requested to do so as far as is reasonable
- Should not start performing before 9am or after 8pm
- Should not perform outside a place of worship and other sound sensitive locations such as care homes or at events and stop busking if requested when there is a solemn service or event taking place
- Engage with traders including street traders, shop keepers, businesses and event managers, residents and the public
- Have the appropriate licences for selling any merchandise

Please note

- Large organised events that are planned in advance may require a Temporary Event Notice (TEN). These require a minimum of 10 working days notice and are issued by Mendip District Council
- Everyone who performs in the street has a responsibility to do so safely and should consider whether they should have a risk assessment and public liability cover.
- If members of the public are being disturbed because a busker is operating outside the code, then they should be referred to the code. Calmly explain that you are troubled by the noise – most buskers will be prepared to respond positively to a reasonable request. If a problem continues then an enforcement officer may be requested to engage with the busker to resolve the situation.

The law requires Mendip District Council to take action to manage a nuisance and this could involve the service of a legal notice. We hope to never reach this stage in Frome and adopting the code will help to prevent that.

Thank you for adding to the cultural life of our town.

Approved by Frome Town Council on:

Frome Town Hall
Christchurch Street West
Frome BA11 1EB