# Regulatory Committee Agenda



# 11 July 2024 at 7pm Marconi Room, Civic Centre, Chelmsford

# Membership

Councillor R. Lee (Chair)
Councillor D. Clark (Vice-Chair)

# and Councillors

N. Chambers, H. Clark, A. Davidson, S. Davis, J. Frascona, A. John, J. Hawkins, L. Mascot, V. Pappa, S. Scott, and P. Wilson

Local people are welcome to attend this meeting, where your elected Councillors take decisions affecting YOU and your City. There will also be an opportunity to ask your Councillors questions or make a statement. These have to be submitted in advance and details are on the agenda page. If you would like to find out more, please email <a href="mailto:dan.sharma-bird@chelmsford.gov.uk">dan.sharma-bird@chelmsford.gov.uk</a> or telephone (01245) 606523

# Regulatory Committee 11 July 2024

# **AGENDA**

# 1. Apologies for Absence

# 2. Minutes

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 29 February 2024.

### 3. Declaration of Interests

All Members are reminded that they must disclose any interests they know they have in items of business on the meeting's agenda and that they must do so at this point on the agenda or as soon as they become aware of the interest. If the interest is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest they are also obliged to notify the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of the meeting.

#### 4. Public Question Time

Any member of the public may ask a question or make a statement at this point in the meeting. Each person has two minutes and a maximum of 20 minutes is allotted to public questions/statements, which must be about matters for which the Committee is responsible.

The Chair may disallow a question if it is offensive, substantially the same as another question or requires disclosure of exempt or confidential information. If the question cannot be answered at the meeting a written response will be provided after the meeting.

Any member of the public who wishes to submit a question or statement to this meeting should email it to <a href="mailto:committees@chelmsford.gov.uk">committees@chelmsford.gov.uk</a> at least 24 hours before the start time of the meeting. All valid questions and statements will be published with the agenda on the website at least six hours before the start time and will be responded to at the meeting. Those who have submitted a valid question or statement will be entitled to put it in person at the meeting.

- 5. Hackney Carriage (Taxi) Trade Tariff Petition Proposal by Chelmsford Taxi Drivers' Association (CDTA)
- 6. Application to appeal the decision of a refusal of a Pavement Licence
- 7. The 'Police, Factories, etc, (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1916 Adoption of Model Street Collection Regulations

# Part II (Exempt Items)

To consider whether the public (including the press) should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following agenda items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information specified in the appropriate paragraph or paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 indicated in the Agenda item.

8. Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 – Application for a new Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Dual Licence

Category: Paragraph 1 of part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972

(Information relating to any individual)

Public interest statement: It is not in the public interest to disclose the content of this report because the information in it concerns the interests and circumstances of an individual who has an expectation that such information would not normally be released to the public. To do otherwise would establish a precedent for the future treatment of personal information.

9. Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 – Application for the Review of a Hackney Carriage/ Private Hire Driver's Dual Licence

Category: Paragraph 1 of part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972

(Information relating to any individual)

Public interest statement: It is not in the public interest to disclose the content of this report because the information in it concerns the interests and circumstances of an individual who has an expectation that such information would not normally be released to the public. To do otherwise would establish a precedent for the future treatment of personal information.

# 10. Urgent Business

To consider any other matter which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be considered by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

### MINUTES OF THE

### REGULATORY COMMITTEE

# held on 29 February 2024 at 7.00pm

#### Present:

Councillor R.J. Lee (Chair)

Councillors N. Chambers D. Clark, A. Davidson, S. Davis, J. Frascona, A. John, S. Rajesh, S. Scott and P. Wilson

# Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bugbee and Pappa.

### 2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2024 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

# 3. Declaration of Interests

All Members were reminded to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary interests or other registerable interests where appropriate in any items of business on the meeting's agenda. None were made.

#### Public Question Time

No public questions were asked or statements made.

#### **Exclusion of the Public**

Resolved that under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for Items 5,6 & 7 on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

# 5. Application for a new Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence

Public interest statement: It is not in the public interest to disclose the content of the report because the information in it concerns the interests and circumstances of an individual who has an expectation that such information would not normally be released to the public. To do otherwise would establish a precedent for the future treatment of personal information.

The Committee considered a request to licence a vehicle as a Private Hire Vehicle, where the specification did not meet with the pre-licensing criteria. The Committee was informed that the vehicle failed to meet the conditions due to it being over the age of one year old before its first registration as a Hackney Carriage Vehicle.

Members were advised that they could either grant the application as applied for or refuse it.

The owner of the vehicle attended the meeting to explain to the Committee, why they felt the vehicle should still be licensed. They explained to the Committee that the delay in applying for the licence had been due to one of the suppliers of vehicle parts going into liquidation and they referred to the correspondence between them and the supplier in Appendix B.

The Committee felt that as the situation had been one out of control of the applicant and that the vehicle was acceptable to be licensed as a Hackney Carraige Vehicle.

RESOLVED that the Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence be granted.

### **Reasons for Decision**

The Committee had regard to the fact that the delay in applying for the licence had been due to one of the suppliers of vehicle parts going into liquidation and felt that the situation had been out of the control of the applicant and that the vehicle was acceptable to be licensed as a Hackney Carraige Vehicle.

(7.02pm to 7.12pm)

# 6. Application for the renewal of a Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence

Public interest statement: It is not in the public interest to disclose the content of the report because the information in it concerns the interests and circumstances of an individual who has an expectation that such information would not normally be released to the public. To do otherwise would establish a precedent for the future treatment of personal information.

The Committee considered a request from Driver X to licence a vehicle as a Private Hire Vehicle, where the specification did not meet with the pre-licensing criteria. The Committee was informed that the vehicle failed to meet the conditions due to it being over 12 years old. Members were advised that they could either grant the licence as applied for, for an additional year or for a shorter period or refuse the application. The Committee were informed that in cases of a vehicle having special characteristics, a case could be presented to the Committee.

The owner of the vehicle attended the meeting to explain to the Committee, why they felt the vehicle should still be licensed and was of special characteristics. They informed the Committee that new taxi prices were very high and they only worked as a taxi driver part time to support their family, during the cost of living crisis. They informed the Committee that a small extension of 6 months to a year would allow them the time required to earn money for a newer taxi.

In response to questions from the Committee, the applicant confirmed that they knew the vehicle was soon to be over 12 years old when it was purchased and they understood that they would need to make a request to the Committee to extend its licence.

**RESOLVED** that the Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence be refused.

### Reasons for decision

The Committee had sympathy for the applicant, but from an objective standpoint the vehicle itself had no special characteristics which might justify a departure from the policy. The applicant was, in effect, asking the Council to make an exception for his vehicle on the basis of his financial circumstances and the current cost of living crisis. The Committee did not feel able to allow this request. To do so would completely undermine the 12 year policy as it would set a precedent for dealing with future similar requests.

(7.13pm to 7.33pm)

# 7. Review of a Hackney Carraige/ Private Hire Dual Drivers Licence

Public interest statement: It is not in the public interest to disclose the content of the report because the information in it concerns the interests and circumstances of an individual who has an expectation that such information would not normally be released to the public. To do otherwise would establish a precedent for the future treatment of personal information.

The Committee was informed that under the provisions of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, a district council should not grant a licence to drive a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle unless it was satisfied that the applicant, amongst other criteria, is a fit and proper person to hold such a licence. It was noted by the Committee that there is no statutory definition of what constitutes a fit and proper person, but that Chelmsford City Council had established its own guidelines which the Committee was required to have regard to when determining applications.

The Committee was informed that they were being asked to consider a review of a dual hackney carriage/ private hire drivers licence held by Driver X to determine whether or not they were a fit and proper person to continue to hold the licence.

Members were advised that the following options were available to them;

- Take no action (allow the licence to continue).
- · Issue a warning.
- Require the licence holder to undertake specific actions in order to keep the licence.
- Apply additional conditions to the licence.
- Suspend the licence.

Officers introduced the matter to the Committee. The Committee heard that Driver X had recently been convicted of a speeding offence, which had added six penalty points to their DVLA licence. It was noted that in addition to an existing three penalty points for speeding, they now held over six points and therefore their status as a fit and proper person needed to be reviewed by the Committee. The Committee heard that in line with their conditions, Driver X did notify the Licensing Authority in

adequate time of the additional points they had obtained. Members were also referred to a complaint in 2019 that had been received regarding Driver X's driving conduct, but no further action had been taken at the time.

Driver X attended the Committee to answer questions and had provided the Committee in advance with a character reference and a letter explaining the regret for their actions and why they felt they were still a fit and proper person to hold their licence. Driver X apologised to the Committee and acknowledged that they should not speed and regretted their actions. They stated that their licence was vital to support their family and they had held it for 8 years, with no complaints or offences in the first 5 years but acknowledged that the recent 9 points were not acceptable.

In response to questions from the Committee, Driver X stated that the recent six points were for speeding on a dual carriageway and had been a minor lapse of concentration in a reduced speed limit area after just dropping off passengers. They also stated that they had completed a speed awareness course many years ago and for the recent two offences, they had accepted the points. They informed the Committee that the recent offence had involved them being followed and stopped by the Police for speeding. They acknowledged that they had been driving in the area for the evening and should have been aware of the reduced speed limit, but they had unfortunately had a minor lapse in concentration. They also confirmed that when receiving points they had informed the Council.

**RESOLVED** that no further action be taken by the Committee and the licence be allowed to continue.

### Reasons for decision

The Committee acknowledged the regret shown by Driver X, the character reference supplied and the fact that they had correctly notified the Council of the penalty points. They therefore were content that they remained a fit and proper person to hold a licence and acknowledged that if they received any more points they were in danger of losing both their DVLA licence and taxi licence.

(7.34pm to 8.09pm)

# 8. Urgent Business

There were no matters of urgent business.

The meeting closed at 8.09pm

Chair



# Chelmsford City Council Regulatory Committee

# 11th July 2024

# Hackney Carriage (Taxi) Trade Tariff Petition Proposal by Chelmsford Taxi Drivers' Association (CTDA)

Report by: Licensing Lead Officer – Daniel Winter

Officer Contact: <a href="mailto:Daniel.winter@chelmsford.gov.uk">Daniel.winter@chelmsford.gov.uk</a>

01245 606317

# Purpose

To consider a petition to Chelmsford City Councils Taxi Tariff on behalf of the Chelmsford Taxi Drivers Association to introduce a Call out/Booking fee for fares charged in respect of Hackney Carriages (Tariff charges).

# Recommendations

Members are requested to consider the petition and determine whether to approve, modify or refuse the proposed changes to the Hackney Carriage fares (the tariff).

### 1. Introduction

1.1 Section 16 of 'The District of Chelmsford Bye-laws' approved on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1975 - adopted the imposition of tariff charges in respect of fares levied by Hackney Carriages. Tariffs may be periodically reviewed, which is generally following an application by a licence holder on behalf of others and where previously this has been in the form of a petition

- 1.2 The most recent review of the Taxi Tariff took place on October 20th, 2022, following a petition from the Chelmsford Taxi Drivers Association (CTDA) requesting a tariff increase for multi-seater vehicles. The Regulatory Committee members agreed to conduct a public consultation on the petition, which was then presented to the committee on December 8th, 2022, and subsequently approved.
- 1.3 The CTDA proposes an amendment to the current Hackney Carriage (Taxi) tariffs to consider the introduction of a 'Call-Out/Booking fee' initiative. This initiative aims to address and enhance service levels, especially for residents outside Chelmsford city centre, improving overall service efficiency and customer satisfaction. Members should note that Hackney Carriage Vehicles, in addition to plying for hire, can legally be pre-booked. Please see details in full of the petition attached as **Appendix A**
- 1.4 Dead miles, which the Booking fee/Call-out fee is intended to cover, refer to the distance travelled by a Hackney carriage without a passenger. This primarily occurs when the taxi is operating privately and traveling to pick up a passenger, rather than being hailed on the street or picking up passengers from designated ranks.
- 1.5 The same approach is taken in Brentwood District Council which 'permits a booking fee up to a maximum of £20 may be added to the proper fare where a Hackney Carriage vehicle used for private hire is used within the district'. No other districts in the county permit a booking fee.

# 2. Implications

- 2.1 If the tariff change is agreed, the proposed table of fares will need to be advertised in the local paper for 14 days (from 18/07/2024 until 31/07/2024) and displayed in the Council offices and on the Council's website. It would also be the intention of officers to inform individual licence holders as part of this process.
- Where there are no objections it is proposed that the changes take effect on 01/08/2024 subject to the production and distribution of the revised tariff card.
- 2.3 Where there are objections, the committee will need to consider the proposal further in the light of those representations, if following consideration, the tariff increase is approved it must come into effect not later than 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024

# 3. Options

- 3.1 Members may consider amending any part of this proposal and have the following options:
  - a) Support the proposed booking fee for Hackney Carriages as submitted and approve the changes for consultation and implemented in accordance with the proposed timescale where no objections are received.

- b) Modify the proposal booking fee and approve the modified change for consultation and implemented in accordance with the proposed timescale where no objections are received.
- c) Not approve the proposed implementation of a booking fee to the current tariff.
- 3.2 In the event that an objection or representation is submitted after the consultation, the matter must be referred back to the Regulatory Committee for further consideration and where necessary, establish a further implementation date.
- 3.3 Committee members should be aware that if approved the new implementation date must be set within 2 months of the original date (1st October 2024)

# Appendices:

Appendix A – The petition for a tariff change by adding a booking/call out fee for hackney carriages.

# Background reading:

None

# **Corporate Implications**

Legal/Constitutional: Introducing a booking fee may require amendments to existing regulations and bylaws governing taxi tariffs. The council will need to ensure compliance with legal standards and may need to conduct formal consultations and public hearings as part of the legislative process.

Financial: There may be administrative costs associated with implementing and monitoring the new booking fee. Additionally, there could be financial benefits from increased service coverage and higher fare revenues for taxi drivers.

Potential impact on climate change and the environment: Improved availability and efficiency of taxi services might reduce the number of personal vehicle trips, potentially lowering overall emissions. Conversely, an increase in taxi usage could lead to more vehicle miles travelled.

Contribution toward achieving a net zero carbon position by 2030: If the booking fee leads to more efficient taxi dispatching and reduced idling, it could contribute positively to reducing carbon emissions. However, this impact may be minimal unless paired with other green initiatives.

Personnel: The introduction of a booking fee might necessitate additional training for council staff and taxi drivers to understand and implement the new system.

Risk Management: There could be risks related to public perception, compliance issues, and potential disputes over the application of the booking fee. Clear guidelines and communication strategies will be essential.

Equality and Diversity: The booking fee could impact different demographic groups in various ways. For example, it may disproportionately affect low-income individuals who rely on taxis for transportation. Conversely, it could improve accessibility for disabled individuals by ensuring more consistent service.

Health and Safety: None specifically related to health and safety, aside from the potential for improved access to transportation for urgent medical appointments, particularly for disabled individuals.

Digital: The implementation of a booking fee may require updates to digital booking platforms and meter systems to ensure the fee is applied correctly and transparently.

Other: None

Consultees: The petitioners

Relevant Policies and Strategies: Taxi Licensing Policy

# **APPENDIX A**

# Hackney Carriage (Taxi) trade Tarif amendment proposal by Chelmsford Taxi Drivers Association (CTDA)

# Proposal

To consider the current restrictions on Hackney Carriage (Taxis) affecting the service levels, which upon adjustment, could easily and greatly be enhanced for the benefit of members of the public.

### **Current Status**

Drivers are currently hesitant to take booked (Telephone or App Booking) journeys outside the city center due to meter limitations, causing inconvenience for customers, especially wheelchair users.

The Association propose a solution similar to that introduced by Brentwood Council to instigate a 'Call-Out/Booking fee' initiative that could alleviate the problem.

This fee, quoted at telephone or App booking, allowing Taxi vehicles to efficiently serve distant locations, benefiting both customers and taxi businesses by reducing wait times without altering the final fare as shown on the meter.

The proposed approach provides transparency and control for customers, addressing the current challenges in the transportation system.

# In detail

As you may be aware, Taxis vehicles have to run the meter for every job they undertake within the boundary of Chelmsford.

This makes perfect sense for all rank and flag down work in the City. Eg from the Station to Springfield. Private Hire (PH) firms are able to price trips at a price they deem fair for the job and in agreement with the customer at the time of booking.

Many Taxi vehicles can obtain work direct through their own phone or being sub contract from PH firms and undertake PH work as well as Taxi work. Primarily this occurs at peak times when the PH firm is very busy and wait times for customers increase that may be unacceptable to them. This for regular bookings and all wheelchair work. The problem that is occurring is trips that do not start/finish or pass through the city centre where the Taxi vehicles are mainly based normally on Ranks.

For example. A resident in Great Waltham wanting to travel to Broomfield Hospital for an urgent requirement.

A PH firm would price that job at around £15 to account for the driver having to drive the 5+ mile trip to Great Waltham to drive just 2 miles back to the hospital. However, a Taxi driver would not be able to charge £15, he would have to meter the job at approximately £8.

This leads to the situation where Taxi drivers would not be given (or accept) these types of job received directly or from the PH firms. This means in peaks times the residents who need these type of trips (who may be happy to pay and would ultimately pay the £15 to the PH firms) have excessive wait times or not get there at all, as they do not have access to the overflow bank of Taxis waiting on Ranks in the city centre.

There are occasions when customers plead for taxis to come from the city centre, but the drivers are commercially unable, unwilling to take the job on.

Many a time customers will suggest they are willing to pay a premium to get to the destination/appointment that is urgent and or important.

This is particularly relevant to residents on the outskirts and the more rural parts of the Chelmsford district who need a taxi but aren't necessarily travelling to Chelmsford City Centre eg South Woodham Ferrers to Rettendon, Great Leighs to Boreham. The same can be said for areas closer to Town be it Galleywood to Gt Baddow, Springfield to Chelmer Village.

This situation, however, leads to a bigger problem for Chelmsford's disabled community who have special and at times urgent requirements.

As you know, the vast majority of wheelchair accessible vehicles in Chelmsford are Hackney Carriage - 100+ vehicles. In the scenario above where a wheelchair user from Great Waltham needs to get to the Hospital, they are now in the unenviable position of trying to find either a PH firm with a PH licensed Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle (of which there are very, very few) so they can pay the £15 fare to the hospital, or they can try and find and persuade a Taxi vehicle to do the fare for £8.

This is not a good situation for these vulnerable customers, and it is causing a lot of problems for them.

There is however an easy solution. In Brentwood, they have solved the problem by allowing a 'Call Out/Booking fee' to be added to the fare booked with a Taxi. The price would be quoted to the customer at the time of booking and would be either accepted or not by the customer. Eg the fare on the meter would be approx £8 with £7 call out as a vehicle will come from the City Centre.

Should the customer not want to pay the fee that would be their choice, either choosing to wait for an available PH vehicle or finding their own way to their destination or choosing not to go at all.

This booking fee would allow PH firms with access to Taxi vehicles to provide the best possible taxi service they can, with reduced wait times. This is a win, win situation for all.

The call out fee does not change what the customer will ultimately pay – which will always be £15 in the above scenario.

By allowing the customer access to Taxi vehicles (that are waiting on ranks) will substantially reduce the waiting time, and in the case of Disabled customers, it enables them to have access to an actual vehicle that is capable of taking them. Without this proposed 'call out' charge, many including Disabled customers are being left unable to obtain much needed transport when they want it, at the price they are willing to pay dependant on their particular need. Urgent or important or both in some cases.

This gives the customer the control they need.

Rate card to read

'A Call Out/Booking Fee charge maybe applied on Telephone or App bookings dependant on location to the value no greater then £30 plus the metered fare'

lan Vernon Chelmsford Taxi Driver Association (CTDA)

Glen Stafford Independent Driver



# Chelmsford City Council Regulatory Committee

# 11th July 2024

Business and Planning Act 2020 – Application to appeal the decision of a refusal of a pavement licence.

Report by: Director of Public Places

# Officer Contact:

Simon Parnham, Licensing Officer, <a href="mailto:simon.parnham@chelmsford.gov.uk">simon.parnham@chelmsford.gov.uk</a> 01245 606406

# **Purpose**

The Committee is requested to consider an application to review the decision that the licensing authority made in relation to the refusal of a pavement licence.

# **Options**

Members are advised that they have the following options when determining this application.

- 1. To uphold the decision to refuse the licence.
- 2. Grant the licence for some or all of the part of the highway specified in the application and impose conditions.

# 1. Introduction

1.1 Pavement licences were introduced under the Business and Planning Act 2020 ('the 2020 Act') and allows someone who has a business premises for the sale of food and/or drink to apply for a licence to place removable furniture on a highway. The furniture can be used for the sale or service of food or by the business's customers. On receipt of an application, there is a 14- day period of

public consultation followed by a 14-day period of determination. Before determining an application, the local authority must consider any representations received during the consultation period and must consult the Highways Authority. If a local authority does not make a determination within the 14-day determination period, the licence is deemed granted.

- 1.2 Biriyani Boy have applied for a tables and chairs licence to place furniture outside of their premises on Baddow Road, the licence was refused in accordance with Chelmsford City Councils Pavement licence policy and specifically section 2 where the proposed area is not adjacent to the premises. This is attached as **Appendix I**.
- 1.3 Biriyani Boy wished to appeal the revocation but as detailed in the guidance, there is no statutory appeal process for these decisions, however, councils can undertake an internal review process, for example, by permitting appeals to their Regulatory Committee.
- 1.4 This matter is being presented to Regulatory Committee for them to review the decision of the tables and chairs application.

# 2. Background

2.1 Baddow Road is a one-way road that has a taxi rank. The road is prone to significant congestion at certain periods of the day especially from 6pm onwards as delivery drivers will often seek a place to stop to pick up orders as well as the taxi rank becoming live between the hours of 6pm until 8am.

# 3. Application

- 3.1 On the 10<sup>th</sup> of May 2024, an application was properly made in accordance with section2(1) & (2) of the Business and Planning Act 2020 using the Council's application form and procedures. Please see attached as **APPENDIX A** and proposed plans as **APPENDIX B**.
- 3.2 Consultation was sent out to all responsible authorities on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May 2024 with a closing date of 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2024.

# 4. Representation and consideration

- 4.1 There were comments made from Planning Services. Please see attached at APPENDIX C also from Chelmsford City Council Public Protection Manager Spencer Clarke please see attached as APPENDIX D, in addition to this we received comments from Essex Highways, please see attached as APPENDIX E
- 4.2 Chelmsford City Council sent a letter of refusal and reasons why to Biriyani Boy on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2024.see attached as **APPENDIX F**

4.3 Chelmsford City Council received a letter of appeal on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June, in relation to the refusal of the application for a pavement licence. Please see attached at **APPENDIX G** and this was submitted with a letter from the business next to Biriyani Boy stating that he has no objections to the land adjacent to his shop being used by Biriyani Boy, see attached as **APPENDIX H.** 

Before concluding this report, members are advised that when determining this matter, the following options are available

- 1. To uphold the decision to refuse the licence.
  - 2. Overturn the decision of the licensing authority to refuse the licence (thereby authorising the grant of the pavement licence, for some or all of the part of the highway specified in the application and impose conditions.)

# List of appendices:

Appendix A – Application

Appendix B – Plans

Appendix C - Comments from Planning

Appendix D – Comments from Public Protection Manager

Appendix E – Comments from Essex Highways

Appendix F – Refusal Letter

Appendix G – Appeal Letter

Appendix H – Appeal Support Letter

Appendix I – Pavement Policy

# **Corporate Implications**

Legal/Constitutional: The local council must ensure that the appeal process follows principles of procedural fairness. This means providing the appellant with a fair and transparent opportunity to present their case, access to relevant information, and a chance to respond to any evidence against them.

Financial: Damages and Compensation: In some cases, if the council's initial decision to revoke the licence is found to be unjust or based on flawed reasoning, they might be required to pay damages or compensation to the appellant.

Potential impact on climate change and the environment: If the pavement licence allows for outdoor seating or other activities that attract customers, it could lead to increased foot and vehicular traffic in the area. This could result in higher emissions from vehicles and contribute to air pollution, counteracting efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Outdoor commercial activities associated with pavement licences can lead to increased noise levels and waste generation. This might have negative impacts on the local environment, affecting both residents and ecosystems.

Pavement licences often involve food and beverage service, which can generate additional waste. If proper waste management practices are not in place, it could lead to increased littering and improper disposal, harming the local environment.

Contribution toward achieving a net zero carbon position by 2030: None

Personnel: Legal Expertise, Regulatory Compliance, Stakeholder Engagement, Financial Planning, Environmental Assessment, Urban Planning, Policy Development.

Risk Management: Legal and Regulatory Risks, Reputation Risks, Financial Risks, Operational Risks, Environmental Risks, Social and Community Risks, Litigation Risks, Compliance Risks: Economic Impact, Climate and Sustainability Risks.

Equality and Diversity: Equal Treatment, Community Impact, Community Engagement, Accessibility, Language and Cultural Sensitivity, Economic and Social Equity, Public Consultations, Diverse Representation, Mitigating Displacement, Community Benefits.

Health and Safety: Public Safety: The council must prioritize public safety in all decisions related to pavement licences. The appeal outcome should not compromise the safety of pedestrians, customers, or residents in the area.

Emergency Access: The council should ensure that the appeal decision does not obstruct emergency access routes, such as sidewalks, fire lanes, or entrances to buildings.

Fire Safety: If the appeal allows for outdoor seating or other activities, fire safety measures should be in place to prevent fire hazards and ensure safe evacuation routes.

Crowd Management: If the appeal outcome leads to increased foot traffic or gatherings in the area, the council should consider measures to manage crowds and prevent overcrowding, especially during events or peak hours.

Accessibility: Outdoor activities associated with pavement licenses should not impede accessibility for individuals with disabilities. Proper pathways and clear access routes should be maintained.

Noise Control: The appeal outcome might involve outdoor activities that generate noise. The council should establish noise control regulations to ensure that noise levels do not negatively impact nearby residents or businesses.

Food Safety: If the appeal allows for food and beverage service, businesses should adhere to food safety regulations to prevent contamination and ensure the health of customers.

Lighting and Visibility: Proper lighting should be provided for outdoor activities that continue after dark to ensure visibility and safety for both pedestrians and drivers.

Waste Management: The council should set guidelines for waste management to prevent littering and maintain a clean and safe environment in the area.

Weather Considerations: If the appeal outcome leads to outdoor activities, the council should consider weather conditions and establish guidelines for dealing with adverse weather, such as rain, wind, or extreme temperatures.

COVID-19 Precautions: In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the council should consider any additional health and safety precautions that might be necessary to prevent the spread of the virus in outdoor commercial activities.

Inspections and Enforcement: The council should have a mechanism in place to regularly inspect and enforce compliance with health and safety regulations related to the appeal outcome.

Digital: Electronic Records: Maintain electronic records of all communications, decisions, and documents related to the appeal process. This helps in maintaining a clear audit trail and can be valuable in case of disputes.

Data Security: Any digital platforms used to store and share sensitive information related to the appeal must adhere to strict data security and privacy standards to prevent unauthorized access or data breaches.

Other: None
Consultees:
Relevant Policies and Strategies: Business and planning Act 2020

### **BUSINESS AND PLANNING ACT 2020**



# APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PAVEMENT LICENCE

Before completing this application please read any associated guidance that can be found on our website at www.chelmsford.gov.uk. If you need to provide additional information please do so on a separate appendix to this application and submit with all required documentation as requested

APPLICANT DETAILS				
Title: Mr	First name(s):		Surname:	
Postal Address:				
Post Town:	Chelmsford	Post Code:		
Phone (Home):	N/A	Phone (Mobile):		
e-mail address:				
Date of Birth:		NI number	:	
DUCINESS DDEMISES D	ETAH C			
BUSINESS PREMISES DETAILS				
Trading Name: Biriyani Boy				
Postal Address:				
Biriyani Boy , 4 Baddow Road				
Chelmsford Essex, CM2 0DG				
Purpose for which the business premises are used? (please tick one of the following options)				
Use as a public house, wine bar or other drinking establishment				
Other use for the sale of food or drink for consumption on or off the premises			Υ	
Both of the above uses				

AREA OF HIGHWAY PROPOSED TO BE USED					
Please provide a description of the part of the highway to which this application relates: (Please note you are required to submit a scale plan of this area together with your application)					
This is on the Pavement on 4 Baddow Road next to the statue					

RELEVANT PURPOSE THE APPLICATION RELATES TO:		
Which of the following relevant purposes do you wish to put furniture on the highway for? (please tick one of the following options)		
To sell or serve food or drink supplied from, or in connection with relevant use of, the premises		
For the purpose of consuming food or drink supplied from, or in connection with relevant use of, the premises	Υ	
Both of the above purposes		

DAYS AND TIMES					
During what times do you propose to place furniture on the highway and on which of the following days: Please use the 24hr clock.					
Mondays	to	Fridays	14:00- 22:00 to 14:00- 22:00		
Tuesdays	14:00- 22:00 to 14:00- 22:00	Saturdays	12:00- 22:00 <sub>to</sub> 12:00- 22:00		
Wednesdays	14:00- 22:00 to 14:00- 22:00	Sundays	12:00- 22:00 <sub>to</sub> 12:00- 22:00		
Thursdays	14:00- 22:00 to 14:00- 22:00				

FURNITURE TO BE PLACED ON	THE HIGHWAY			
Please provide a description and the quantity of the furniture you propose to place on the highway and outline any applicable and additional toilet provision.				
(Please note you are required to provide photographs or brochures of the proposed furniture with your application. Continue on a separate schedule if necessary)				
Esszimmerstuhl ( By GRANDSOL	ـEIL ) Plastic Garden Dinninզ	g Armchairs and Tables - 10	chairs and 5 Tables	
The Restaurant has a toilet inside.				
Checklist:				
I have paid the fee of £100	l .		Rec. Ref	
<ul> <li>I have attached photograph</li> </ul>	hic evidence of the public not	ice	$\square$	
<ul> <li>I have enclosed a plan sho</li> </ul>	owing the extent of the area a	nd layout of furniture	Y	
<ul> <li>Copy of public liability insular</li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>I understand that if I do not be rejected.</li> </ul>	t provide information requeste	ed that my application will	$\underline{\Upsilon}$	
<ul> <li>I understand that there is n</li> </ul>	o assumed right of permissio			
within the required period. will not be refunded.	Where council refuse permis	sion I understand that fees	Y	
Will flot be foldilided.			ш	
DECLARATIONS BY APPLICAN	Т			
I understand that I am required to Planning Act 2020 and that failing	to do so will lead to the revoc	eation of any licence granted.	rements of the Business and	
I understand I must hold and main	•	•		
I understand my application will not be considered to be complete until all the required documents and information have been provided and the application fee of £100 has been paid.				
I understand that the application fee paid is non-refundable if my application is refused or if any licence granted is subsequently surrendered or revoked.				
I understand that the Authority is under a duty to protect the public funds it administers, and to this end may use the information I have provided on this form for the prevention and detection of fraud. I understand that it may also share this information with other bodies responsible for auditing or administering public funds for these purposes.				
I declare that the information given above is true to the best of my knowledge and that I have not willfully omitted any necessary material. I understand that if there are any willful omissions, or incorrect statements made, my application may be refused without further consideration or, if a licence has been issued, it may be liable to revocation.				
I understand that the Authority is collecting my data for the purposes described on this form and will not be used for any other purpose, or passed on to any other body, except as required by law, without my consent.				
Date Submitted: (Date of application)	28/03/2024	Signed:	l de la companya de	

Please return this form with all relevant documents and proof that the application fee has been paid to:

licensing@chelmsford.gov.uk

**Print Name:** 

#### Guidance

For your guidance, below are our standard conditions that should be taken into account when making application. As our 'published conditions' these will be attached to every licence including any that might be 'deemed granted'.

#### **Standard Conditions**

- 1. This permission is personal to the Licensee and not be capable of being transferred.
- 2. The Licensee shall make no fixtures to or excavations of any kind in the surface of the highway which shall be left entirely undisturbed.
- 3. The Licensee shall make no claim or charge against either Chelmsford City Council (The Council) or Essex County Council in the event of the furniture or other objects being lost, stolen or damaged in any way from whatever cause.
- 4. The Licensee shall indemnify both the Council and the Essex County Council as Highway Authority against all actions, proceedings, claims, demands and liability which may at any time be taken, made or incurred arising out of the grant of this permission and for this purpose must take out at the Licensee's expense a policy of public liability insurance approved by the Council in the sum of at least five million pounds in respect of any one event and must produce to the Council on request the current receipts of premium payments and confirmation of the annual renewals of the policy.
- 5. The authorised area shall be used solely for the purpose of consuming food or drink and only by persons seated at the tables and chairs provided within the authorised area.
- 6. No charge shall be made by the Licensee for the use of the tables and chairs.
- 7. Waste from the Licensee's operations shall not be disposed of in the permanent litter bins situated on the highway for use by the general public provided by the Council.
- 8. Refuse and litter deposited on the highway in the vicinity of the chairs and tables must be collected and removed each day by the Licensee at the Licensee's expense at not less than hourly intervals, at close of business or at more frequent intervals as may be required by or under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and the Licensee shall comply with all requirements of any public health legislation for the time being in force.
- 9. The Licensee shall remove from the highway the barriers, posts, tables and chairs to permit works in or the use of the highway by the Council, the Council, the police, fire and ambulance services, any statutory undertaker or telecommunications code operator and shall make no claim against the Council or County Council for any loss of revenue or for refund or permission fee as a result thereof. When such temporary removal is required to enable authorised special events to take place, the Council will provide reasonable prior notice of such events.
- 10. No alcohol shall be consumed on the permitted area unless a licence authorising the sale of alcohol has been issued by the Council.
- 11. The Licensee shall be responsible for any rates, taxes and other outgoings which may be charged arising from the exercise of this licence.
- 12. The Licensee shall at its own expense obtain any necessary statutory consents and approvals required in connection with the exercise of a refreshment facility on the highway and comply with the provisions of all such consents and approvals and all statutes and other obligations imposed by law with regards to the provision, maintenance and operation of the refreshment facility.
- 13. The Licensee shall at the written request of the Council's Director of Public Places remove from and shall not replace any furniture on the permitted area which is not maintained to a standard satisfactory to the said Director.
- 14. No regulated entertainment shall be permitted within the licensed area unless authorised.
- 15. The Licensee shall keep the furniture clean and tidy and the tables cleared regularly.
- No furniture is to be placed or kept on the permitted area when [premises] is not open or trading.
- 17. The furniture is to be used only by customers of [premises], Chelmsford for the consumption of food and drink supplied from within those premises.
- 18. The Licensee shall not cause or permit any nuisance or annoyance to users of the highway.
- 19. The Licensee shall not place furniture on the highway outside the authorised area of use.
- 20. The Licensee shall not permit or suffer the removal of any glassware used for the supply of the refreshment provided by the public from the authorised area.
- 21. Glasses supplied for the consumption of drinks on the authorised area shall be made of toughened glass or plastic only.
- 22. All barriers erected to enclose the area will be of high visibility and with a low tapping rail for the visually impaired.
- 23. The authorised area shall be supervised by competent staff of the Licensee at all times during the exercise of this consent who shall take all reasonable steps to ensure compliance with these terms and conditions.
- 24. Any heaters used in the permitted area must conform to BS EN 60529:1992 (electric heaters) and BS EN 14543:2005 (gas heaters). The Licensee shall restrict access to the controls/ pipe cylinders on the heaters to authorized employees of the premises only.
- 25. This permission may be suspended or revoked:

- (a) by either party giving to the other not less than one months notice in writing to expire at any time or
- (b) in the event of the Licensee failing to comply with any of the above conditions the Council may revoke the licence by giving 24 hours notice in writing to the Licensee and in this event all consideration money previously paid shall be without prejudice to any right or action which the Council may have for breach of terms of this permission damages or otherwise.
- 26. Any notice to be served in connection with this permission will be sent by email to the email address of the licence holder provided within the application and shall be deemed to be served upon the Council if sent via email to <a href="mailto:licensing@chelmsford.gov.uk">licensing@chelmsford.gov.uk</a> or addressed to Director of Public Places c/o The Licensing Team, Civic Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford CM1 1JE.
- 27. The Licensee shall remove all furniture from the authorised area when the premises are closed for trading. For further clarification, no furniture is to be placed or kept on the authorised area when the premises are not open or trading, nor placed on the highway other than in the layout shown on the approved plan.
- 28. This consent is a consent issued under s.3 (3)(a) of Part1 Business and Planning Act 2020
- 29. No form of decking/flooring will be permitted under any circumstances.
- 30. Customer toilet and associated hand-washing facilities is to be provided in accordance with the Council's Guidance on Toilet Provision.
- 31. A copy of page 1 of this licence shall be placed in a prominent position adjacent to the area in respect of which this permission has been granted so as it can be clearly seen by authorised officials without need to enter the premises.

The Licensee's attention is drawn to The Chelmsford City Council Public Spaces Protection Order (Chelmsford City Centre and Surrounding Area) 2019 made in accordance with the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

# **Mandatory Conditions (National)**

The Secretary of State publishes this condition in exercise of his powers under [clause 5(6)] of the Business and Planning Act 2020:

Condition relating to clear routes of access:

It is a condition that clear routes of access along the highway must be maintained, taking into account the needs of disabled people, and the recommended minimum footway widths and distances required for access by mobility impaired and visually impaired people as set out in Section 3.1 of Inclusive Mobility.

Guidance on the effect of this condition

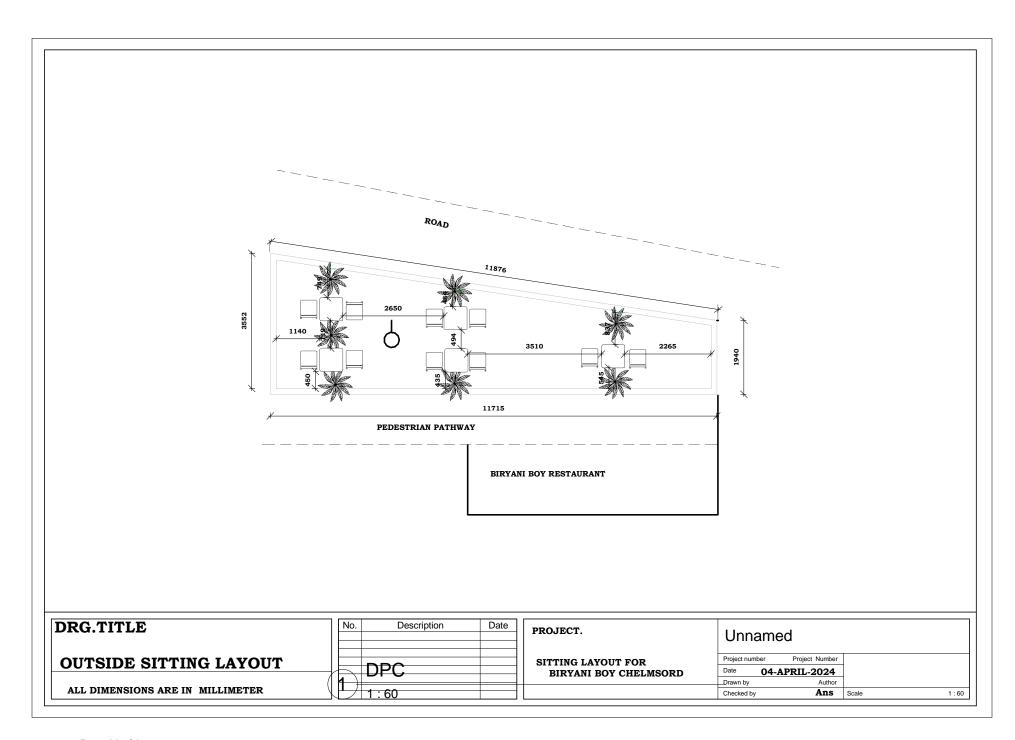
- 1. To the extent that conditions imposed or deemed to be imposed on a pavement licence do not require the licence holder to require clear routes of access to be maintained, taking into account the needs of disabled people and the recommended minimum footway widths and distances required for access by mobility impaired and visually impaired people as set out in Section 3.1 of Inclusive Mobility, the licence is granted subject to those requirements.
- 2. To the extent that a licence is granted subject to a condition which imposes requirements to maintain clear routes of access that are inconsistent with the requirements set out in this condition this condition is not imposed on the licence.

#### Part 1 Business and Planning Act 2020

- 1. If it appears to a local authority that a person to whom they have granted or deemed to be granted permission under Section s.3 (3)(a) of Part1 Business and Planning Act 2020 has committed any breach of any condition of the licence they may revoke the licence, or serve a notice requiring them to take such steps to remedy the breach as are specified in the notice within such time as it is so specified.
- 2. If a person on whom a notice is served under subsection 6(1)(b) above fails to comply with the notice, the council may revoke the licence or take the steps themselves and in doing so may recover any costs from the licence holder.
- 3. A local authority may also revoke a pavement licence if it considers that (a) some or all of the part of the relevant highway has become unsuitable for any purpose in relation to which the licence was granted and (b) as a result there is a risk to public safety, anti-social behaviour or public nuisance is being caused or the highway is being obstructed (other than that permitted in pursuant of the licence) or (c) it is later found that the applicant was misleading or gave false information in their application or (d) the licence holder failed to comply with the duty in s. 2(5) in respect of failure to properly display the public notice.

#### **Effect**

1. The effect of granting this licence negates the need to apply for any planning permission or street trading consent, in connection with only the purposes for which this licence has been issued.



#### Hello

The principle of tables & chairs on the build-out area is fine, however before approving the proposal needs some refinement.

The plan and the photo included with the application gives a guide to what's proposed, however more information is needed.

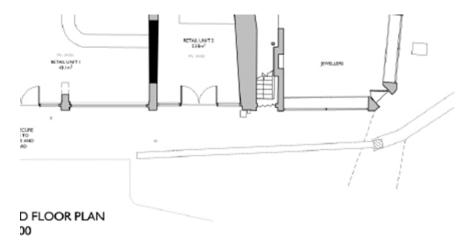
The application mentions 10 chairs and 5 tables, there is no mention of any other furniture, such as the planters shown in the photo included in the application.

Their plan is misleading as it shows Biryani Boy shop front facing half of the tables & chairs area. The plan (below) shows the shop face ends where the tables and chairs area would start. If taken literally, having tables & chairs opposite their shop front would mean using the loading bay, hence their plan is not clear.

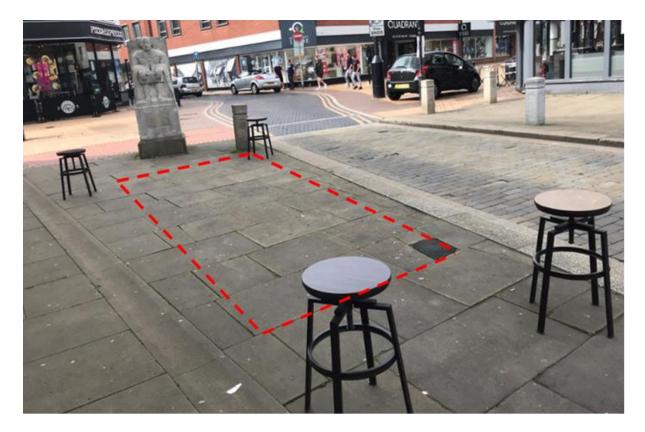
# The plan needs to make clear:

the dimension between the building and the start of the tables & chairs area, the dimension back from the carriageway kerb edge to the tables & chairs area, the existing street furniture and drainage channel. If the applicant shows these this would help them in plotting their area correctly.

A key existing streetscape element is the drainage channel. It runs from the continuous Baddow Road kerb line to the drain cover at the Moulsham Street corner and appears to be what the applicant is using as their marker for the start of the table & chairs area. This channel line is not parallel to the building line and gradually gets closer to the building line before it reaches the drain at the corner to Moulsham Street (see image below from the planning file which illustrates this). The drainage channel at the most eastern point is 2m from the building face. As this drainage channel moves west towards Moulsham Street it creeps closer to the building. If this drainage channel is relied on it will create a pinch-point on the footway at the corner to Moulsham Street, which will not be acceptable.



If you are minded to allow a Pavement Licence for table & chairs at this location the area I suggest the area that would be more suitable is a smaller area as shown within the red hatched area below. The applicant should draw this up on a scaled plan for you to attach the licence to:



A clear gap of 1.2m must be maintained to the closest point of the statue.

ECC Highways engineering I believe have a dimension to keep items clear of the carriageway kerb edge, as a guide do not go any closer than the bollard in the photo above.

Please also be aware, the black top infill seen in the photo is where a Granite bollard was damaged by vehicle impact and I understand Essex Highways are looking to replace this.

This part of Baddow Road will see a change in vehicle movement patterns as the new TRO (coming into play from this summer) for the pedestrianised area will see servicing vehicles entering from Baddow Road turning right into Moulsham Street at the permitted times.

As with other Pavement Licences, please make it clear this is simply for the temporary period as prescribed by government, and this is no guarantee that the tables & chairs area will be permitted thereafter.

Kind regards

# Jamie Cole Planning Officer (Public Realm and Design)

Economic Development and Implementation, Sustainable Communities

Simon,

My only comment is that this area is used for taxi marshals, but this service does not commence until 23.00hrs so if the tables, chairs and planters are moved in by this time it should be fine.

Regards

Spencer

Spencer Clarke

Public Protection Manager

Public Health and Protection Services, Public Places

Chelmsford City Council



Essex Highways Seax House 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Victoria Road South Chelmsford Essex CM1 1QH

Date: 23 May 2024 Our Ref: TC/RC/009

Simon.PARNHAM@chelmsford.gov.uk

Dear Simon

Business and Planning Act 2020 Application for a Pavement Licence - Biriyani Boy, 4 Baddow Road Chelmsford Essex, CM2 0DG

I refer to your correspondence to the County Council's Highways Department, and consultation in respect of your Council exercising its powers to grant permission to Abubakar Mashud for pavement licence in respect of the premises above.

In reviewing the application and supporting documents, we would not support this application or consent to any furniture being placed on the highway in the area identified by the location plan, please see below our reasons.

The area specified on the applicant's location plan would not be suitable for two reasons.

- 1. The area proposed by the applicant for the provision of furniture is not immediately adjacent to the business/premises and would interfere with the other business in the immediate area.
- 2. The area adjacent to the business, I have measured the widest area of footway and measure this to be approx. 1.86 meters, based on these measurements, the applicant would fail to meet the minimum 2 meters unobstructed footway (no-obstruction condition) with placement of the proposed furniture and fail to consider the needs of disabled people using the footway, as set out in the national guidance.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Rachel Crouch Network Assurance

R Crouch

Senior Traffic Regulation & Licencing Officer







# **Supporting Documents – Application for Pavement Licence**

# **Street View Image**

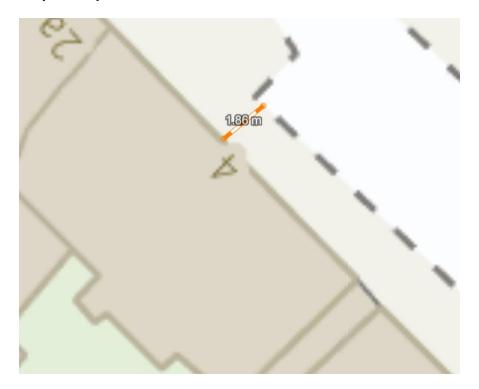
Biriyani Boy, 4 Baddow Road Chelmsford Essex, CM2 0DG



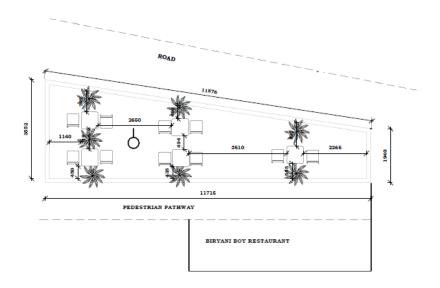
**Highway Record Location Plan 1**Biriyani Boy, 4 Baddow Road Chelmsford Essex, CM2 0DG



**Highway Record Location Plan 1** – Footway Measurement Biriyani Boy, 4 Baddow Road Chelmsford Essex, CM2 0DG



**Highway Record Location Plan 1** – Application Layout Plan Biriyani Boy, 4 Baddow Road Chelmsford Essex, CM2 0DG



### **PUBLIC PLACES**

Director: Keith Nicholson



Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1JE

DX123305 Chelmsford 7 Telephone: 01245 606606 Facsimile :01245 606681

Email: licensing@chelmsford.gov.uk

Our Ref: 24/00305/PAVLI Officer: Daniel Winter Direct Dial: 01245606317

Date: 23/05/2024

Subject: Pavement Licence Application for Biriyani Boy, 4 Baddow Road, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 0DG Decision date by: 24/05/2024

#### Dear

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to inform you that your application for a pavement licence, submitted on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024, has been carefully reviewed by the relevant authorities. Regrettably, we must inform you that your application has been refused, and we would like to outline the reasons for this decision.

The main reason for rejecting your application is because of the comments from Essex County Council, who are responsible for safeguarding the Highways. Their observations are as follows:

- The area proposed by the applicant for the provision of furniture is not immediately adjacent to the business/premises and would interfere with the other business in the immediate area.
- The area adjacent to the business, I have measured the widest area of footway and measure this
  to be approx. 1.86 meters, based on these measurements, the applicant would fail to meet the
  minimum 2 meters unobstructed footway (no-obstruction condition) with placement of the
  proposed furniture and fail to consider the needs of disabled people using the footway, as set
  out in the national guidance.

We would like to express our appreciation for your understanding in this matter.

Please note that under the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2024, which took effect on March 31, 2024, local councils now have the authority to issue notices, remove furniture, and recover storage costs.

Should you have any further questions or wish to discuss this decision in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

We welcome a new application from you after the redevelopment is complete and look forward to working with you to ensure the success of your business.

Yours sincerely

Daniel Winter Licensing Lead Officer



Chelmsford City Council Civic Centre Duke Street Chelmsford CM1 1JE 09/06/2024

Dear Members of Chelmsford City Council,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent refusal of our application for outside seating for our business, Biriyani Boy, located at 4 Baddow Road, CM2 0DG. This decision has a significant negative impact on our operations and the local business community, particularly as we are heavily reliant on the increased foot traffic and sales that the summer months bring.

As a business that thrives on providing a pleasant and inviting atmosphere for our customers, the ability to offer outside seating is crucial. During the summer, many customers prefer to enjoy their meals and beverages outdoors, and this preference directly influences our sales and customer satisfaction. The inability to provide this option severely limits our capacity to attract and retain customers, which in turn affects our revenue and profitability.

Moreover, the decision not only affects our business but also has a ripple effect on the surrounding businesses in the area. Increased foot traffic due to outside seating benefits neighboring establishments as well, creating a vibrant and bustling environment that attracts more visitors to our part of Chelmsford. This collective success fosters a thriving local economy and community spirit, which is now at risk due to the restriction on outside seating.

Additionally, the provision of outside seating allows us to create extra job opportunities for local people. The increased demand for service during the summer months necessitates hiring additional staff, which supports the local job market and provides valuable employment opportunities within the community. This not only benefits those directly employed by our business but also contributes to the broader economic health of Chelmsford.

We understand the need to balance various factors in urban planning and community management. However, we believe there are ways to address any concerns while still supporting local businesses. For example, we are willing to work closely with the council to ensure that our outside seating area complies with all safety regulations and community standards. This could include measures such as designated seating areas that do not obstruct pedestrian pathways, enhanced cleanliness protocols, and restricted hours of operation to minimise any potential disturbances.

We respectfully request that the council reconsider our application for outside seating, taking into account the substantial positive impact it has on our business, the surrounding community, and the local job market. By allowing us to provide this service, you would be supporting not just our business but the overall economic vitality and attractiveness of Chelmsford as a destination.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to the opportunity to discuss this matter further and to work together towards a solution that benefits everyone involved.

Yours sincerely,

- Operation Manager (Biriyani Boy)

License Team
Chelmsford City Council
Civic Centre
Duke Street
Chelmsford
CM1 1JE
09/06/2024

Dear License Team

I am writing to provide formal permission for my next-door neighbour, Biriyani Boy, to use the portion of my pavement in front of my property for the placement of chairs and tables.

As the property owner of Home of Gadget, I am fully aware and approve of my neighbour's intention to utilize the mentioned area, and I confirm that it does not pose any inconvenience to me or our customer and the rest of the public. There is enough space for disable wheelchair users as well. This arrangement is amicable and mutually beneficial.

I kindly request that the license team grant my neighbour, Biriyani Boy, permission to proceed with using the agreed-upon section of my pavement for their intended purposes. This helped boost our business last year.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter. If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

(Home of Gadget)



# **Pavement Licensing Policy**

### 1. Introduction

The Business and Planning Act 2020 (as amended) was introduced as temporary legislation to assist businesses and remove existing bureaucracy around what were known as Tables and Chairs Licences under the Highways Act. The Business and Planning Act 2020 has now been amended by the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 which makes the Pavement Licence regime permanent.

The Act allows Chelmsford City Council to permit specified furniture to be placed on the highway (mostly footpaths and pedestrianised areas) although where applicable, businesses may still need the activity to be licensed, for example, sale of alcohol.

### 2. Definition of 'pavement licence'

A pavement licence is a licence granted by the local authority, or deemed to have been granted, which allows the licence holder to place removable furniture over certain highways adjacent to the premises in relation to which the application was made, and for certain purposes.

## 3. Eligible Businesses

A person (which includes a body corporate) which uses (or proposes to use) premises for the sale of food or drink for consumption (on or off the premises) can apply for a licence. Businesses that are eligible include: public houses, cafes, bars, restaurants, snack bars, coffee shops, ice cream parlours or similar.

A licence permits the business to use furniture placed on the highway in order to sell or serve food or drink and/or allow it to be used by people for consumption of food or drink supplied from, or in connection with the use of the premises.

A pavement licence does not licence the activity, only the placing of the furnishings. The pavement licence is issued to a person or incorporated body. Where there is a change to that person or incorporated body then the licence will lapse, and a further application will need to be made by any new person.

### 4. Eligible Locations

Licences can only be granted in respect of highways listed in section 115A(1) Highways Act 1980.

Generally, these are footpaths restricted to pedestrians or are roads and places to which vehicle access is restricted or prohibited. Highways maintained by Network Rail or over the Crown land are exempt (so a licence cannot be granted).

This policy is applicable throughout the Chelmsford City Council district, although its main impact is within the city centre as other areas with demand for tables and chairs tend to be on privately owned land.

From 8 High Street northwards to the top of the High Street tables and chairs are only permitted in the hatched areas of the plan at Appendix 1. There must be a minimum width of 3 metres between the business façade and the tables and chairs, and a minimum 5 metre clear route along the centre of the street. The maximum depth of the area licensed for tables and chairs to be 2.5 metres.

To the south of 8 High Street, including Springfield Road and Moulsham Street, tables and chairs to be placed abutting the façade. The maximum depth of the area licensed for tables and chairs is to be 2.5 metres. Maximum depth of 2.5 metres does not apply to Exchange Square or Backnang Square.

Tables and chairs can only be placed in front of the façade the licence holder is responsible for.

Tables and Chairs will not be permitted where they would restrict any pedestrianised public highway to less than 2.5 metres in width or impede any designated cycle route.

Any application for tables and chairs in front of Shire Hall must be considered by the Council's Regulatory Committee.

# 5. Type of furniture permitted

Seating, tables and, if required, umbrellas and heaters (together with a secure base) as well as any proposed barriers to enclose the seating area are permitted.

The furniture must be fit for purpose and designed specifically for commercial outdoor use (and comply with all relevant BS standards). It must be kept in good order; damaged or faded items must be replaced.

This furniture is required to be removable, meaning that it is not a permanent fixed structure, and is able to be moved easily, and should be stored away when the premises are closed for activity.

There is an expectation that the type and style of furniture would be 'in keeping' with the local area.

Picnic benches and plastic tables and chairs designed for domestic use (e.g. white plastic furniture) are not permitted.

Any form of gazebo or enclosed shelter with one or more sides is not permitted.

#### 6. Barriers

When tables and chairs are in place a standard barrier consisting of a fabric banner and associated post/rail system shall be used. The function of the barriers is to demarcate and contain the tables and chairs but also to give a clear warning particularly to people with visual impairments.

The barriers shall be secured by a purpose designed post and rail system with weighted post bases to prevent being knocked or blown over and be of a height range of 800mm to 1000mm so to not visually obstruct views down the street or be an obstructing hazard

Street café barriers should be of a design to complement the character of the surrounding area. Banners should be of one design, in a plain style and can incorporate the business name or brand logo. Posts and rails should be stainless steel, chrome plated or powder coated.

# 7. Times of Operation

The tables and chairs can be placed on the highway only when the premises are open for business and in any event not before 6.00 am and normally until the close of business.

Where nuisance is likely to be caused to residents e.g. late at night, businesses may be required to remove the tables and chairs before the close of business.

## 8. Planning Permission

Once a licence is granted the applicant will also benefit from deemed planning permission to use the land for anything done only pursuant to the licence while the licence is valid, but not for any other purpose.

### 9. Consultation

Applications are consulted upon for 14 days, starting with the day after that on which the application is made to the Council (an application will not be considered to have been properly made unless each requirement has been met).

The Council will publish details of the application on its website at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/business/licensing/find-a-licence/pavement-licence

The Council is required by law to consult with the Essex County Council Highways Authority. In addition, to ensure that there are no detrimental effects in granting such a licence the Council will also consult with:

- Chelmsford City Council Environmental Health Service
- Chelmsford City Council Planning Department
- Essex Police
- The appropriate Local Ward Councillor(s)
- The appropriate Parish or Town Council

Members of the public and others listed above can contact the Council to make representations.

The Council must take into account representations received during the public consultation period and consider in their determination of the application.

### 10. **Cost**

There is an application fee and a renewal fee payable every two years. Details can be found on the application form and Chelmsford City Council website.

### 11. Insurance

Operators must indemnify both Chelmsford City Council and Essex County Council in respect of injury, damage or loss arising out of the grant of permission (unless such claims arise out of the Councils' negligence). All operators must have public liability insurance in the sum of £10,000,000 in respect of any one event. A copy of this insurance must be produced to the Council before a licence will be issued.

The Licence holder shall make no claim or charge against the Council in the event of the furniture or other objects being lost, stolen or damaged in any way.

#### 12. Litter

Refuse and litter deposited on the highway in the vicinity of the chairs and tables must be collected at not less than hourly intervals (or more frequent intervals if required under the Environmental Protection Act 1990).

Litter is not to be placed in the litter bins situated on the highway for use by the general public, but in the trade refuse bins.

All tables must be cleared as soon as practicable after being vacated by customers to avoid litter being deposited unnecessarily on the highway.

### 13. Miscellaneous Conditions

The Licence holder must remove any furniture if required to do so to permit works in or the use of the highway by the Council, the County Council, the emergency services any statutory undertaker or telecommunications code operator or where the Licence holder has been notified of a special event taking place.

No charge can be made by the Licence holder for the use of the furniture.

All licences are renewable every two years.

### **Appendices**

### Appendix 1

Map of Chelmsford City High Street with permitted areas for tables and chairs

Creation	Version	Changes Approved:
date	No.	
June 2024	2	Policy updated to include legislative changes, adopt new and renewal fees and take into account decision of regulatory committee on 17/3/2022 to introduce specific restrictions in Chelmsford Town Centre



Page 42 of 67

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Home of Gadgets Mobile phone repair shop



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# Chelmsford City Council Regulatory Committee

# 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024

The 'Police, Factories, etc, (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1916 - Adoption of Model Street Collection Regulations

# Report by:

Director of Public Places

### Officer Contact:

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## **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to seek the approval of the Regulatory Committee for the adoption of the Model Street Collection Regulations within Chelmsford City Council.

# **Options**

- 1. Adopt the Model Street Collection Regulations in their entirety, as recommended.
- 2. The Committee may decide not to adopt the Model Regulations nor any bespoke regulations.
- 3. The Committee could opt to create and adopt a bespoke set of regulations tailored specifically to the needs of Chelmsford City Council. This would need to be brought back to Committee on another occasion.
- 4. The Committee may decide to defer the decision to a later date to allow for further research, consultation, or consideration of additional information.

### 1. Introduction

1.1 Fundraising collections are crucial for charities, enabling them to raise essential funds and promote their causes. However, it is necessary to ensure that these activities are conducted by legitimate organisations and do not cause disruption to businesses or residents. Adopting the Model Street Collection Regulations will provide a standardised framework to manage and regulate street collections effectively, ensuring transparency, fairness, and public safety.

# 2. Background

- 2.1 Before reviewing the council's street collection policy, it was recommended that the Council adopt the Model Regulations for street collections. Under Chelmsford City Council's constitution, the Regulatory Committee has the authority to consider and determine any regulatory matters arising in connection to street collections as have been referred by the relevant Director.
- 2.2 The regulations prescribe various requirements relating to the application process and the way collections must take place. The regulations are designed to ensure collections do not give rise to nuisance, the purpose for the collection is transparent and proceeds are kept secure and fully accounted for. The regulations also provide for penalties should any person be found to have acted in contravention.
- 2.3 Councils are not obliged to adopt the Model Regulations and can decide to determine their own regulations. However, any new regulations would first require confirmation from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport before implementation. The Model Regulations, approved by the Home Office, were introduced so that councils could introduce regulations by resolution without the need for further consideration or confirmation by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport.

## 3. Requirements

If the Committee decides to adopt the Model Street Collection Regulations, several steps must be taken to ensure proper implementation:

### Passing a Resolution:

A resolution to adopt the Model Street Collection Regulations needs to be passed. A copy of the decision, for example, in the minutes stating it has been resolved to adopt the model regulations, needs to be provided to the Department of Culture, Media and Sport.

Publication of Advertisement:

An advertisement needs to be published in two local newspapers with the decision and stating that a copy of the regulations will be furnished free of charge should anyone request them.

#### 4. Conclusion

- 4.1 The Council could determine not to adopt the Model Regulations. Should the Council determine not to adopt the Model Regulations, then charitable street collections would effectively be unregulated within Chelmsford City Council's area. Without regulation, there is an increased risk of public nuisance and exploitation by unscrupulous collectors.
- 4.2 The Council could determine its own regulations, however any decision to adopt regulations other than the prescribed Model Regulations requires specific consideration and thereafter, confirmation from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport. To our knowledge and through correspondence with the Department of Culture, Media and Sport, no Councils have adopted bespoke regulations within the last few years.

# List of appendices:

Appendix 1 – Model Regulations

# **Corporate Implications**

### Legal/Constitutional:

The Council is empowered under Section 5 of the Police, Factories, etc (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1916, as amended by the Local Government Act 1972, to licence collections made in 'any street or public place' for 'charitable or other purposes.

Section 5 of the Act also empowers local authorities to adopt provisions concerning the regulation of street collections in their districts. Model Street Collection Regulations are set out in Schedule 1 of the Charitable Collections (Transitional Provisions) Order 1974. A resolution is required from Council to adopt the Model Regulations as set out in Schedule 1 of the Charitable Collections (Transitional Provisions) Order 1974.

If the Council passes a resolution to adopt the Model Regulations, a copy of the resolution must then be lodged with the Department of Culture, Media and Sport and advertised in two local newspapers.

There is no provision within the legislation for fees to be charged for either processing applications or granting permits or licences for charitable collections. As a result, the cost to the service of advertising resolutions, processing applications and any necessary enforcement action is borne from the general fund. This is a continuing statutory function that the Council must deliver at no charge to the end user. Efficient online application processes are in place to keep costs to as low as possible given the requirement to administer the regime without funding.

Financial: None

Potential impact on climate change and the environment: None

Contribution toward achieving a net zero carbon position by 2030: None

Personnel: None

Risk Management: None

Equality and Diversity: Impact assessment not required

Health and Safety: None

Digital: measures will be in place to ensure relevant personal data is managed in

accordance with the Data Protection Act and GDPR requirements.

Other: None

## Consultees:

Relevant Policies and Legislation

The Charitable Collections (Transitional Provisions) Order 1974

The Police, Factories (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1916 as amended by Section 251



#### Version 1 of 1

15 February 1974 - Present

#### **Subjects**

Charities

1.

In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

"collection" means a collection of money or a sale of articles for the benefit of charitable or other purposes and the word "collector" shall be construed accordingly;

"promoter" means a person who causes others to act as collectors;

"the licensing authority" means( $^{1}$ );

"permit" means a permit for a collection;

"contributor" means a person who contributes to a collection and includes a purchaser of articles for sale for the benefit of charitable or other purposes;

"collecting box" means a box or other receptacle for the reception of money from contributors.

#### **Notes**

1 Insert the name of the licensing authority granting the permit.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 1

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#### Version 1 of 1

15 February 1974 - Present

# **Subjects** Charities

2.

No collection, other than a collection taken at a meeting in the open air, shall be made in any street or public place within 1) unless a promoter shall have obtained from the licensing authority a permit.

#### **Notes**

1 Insert the name of the new licensing area.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 2

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#### Version 1 of 1

15 February 1974 - Present

# **Subjects** Charities

3.

Application for a permit shall be made in writing not later than one month before the date on which it is proposed to make the collection:

Provided that the licensing authority may reduce the period of one month if satisfied that there are special reasons for so doing.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 3

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#### Version 1 of 1

15 February 1974 - Present

## Subjects

Charities

4.

No collection shall be made except upon the day and between the hours stated in the permit.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 4

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#### Version 1 of 1

15 February 1974 - Present

## Subjects

Charities

5.

The licensing authority may, in granting a permit, limit the collection to such streets or public places or such parts thereof as it thinks fit.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 5

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#### Version 1 of 1

15 February 1974 - Present

## Subjects

Charities

6.—

- (1) No person may assist or take part in any collection without the written authority of a promoter.
- (2) Any person authorised under paragraph (1) above shall produce such written authority forthwith for inspection on being requested to do so by a duly authorised officer of the licensing authority or any constable.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 6

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#### Version 1 of 1

15 February 1974 - Present

# **Subjects** Charities

7.

No collection shall be made in any part of the carriage way of any street which has a footway:

Provided that the licensing authority may, if it thinks fit, allow a collection to take place on the said carriage way where such collection has been authorised to be held in connection with a procession.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 7

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#### Version 1 of 1

15 February 1974 - Present

# Subjects

Charities

8.

No collection shall be made in a manner likely to inconvenience or annoy any person.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 8

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#### Version 1 of 1

15 February 1974 - Present

### Subjects

Charities

9.

No collector shall importune any person to the annoyance of such person.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 9

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#### Version 1 of 1

15 February 1974 - Present

#### **Subjects**

Charities

10.

#### While collecting—

- (a) a collector shall remain stationary; and
- (b) a collector or two collectors together shall not be nearer to another collector than 25 metres:

Provided that the licensing authority may, if it thinks fit, waive the requirements of this Regulation in respect of a collection which has been authorised to be held in connection with a procession.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 10

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#### Version 1 of 1

15 February 1974 - Present

# **Subjects** Charities

11.

No promoter, collector or person who is otherwise connected with a collection shall permit a person under the age of sixteen years to act as a collector.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 11

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#### Version 1 of 1

15 February 1974 - Present

#### **Subjects**

Charities

12.—

- (1) Every collector shall carry a collecting box.
- (2) All collecting boxes shall be numbered consecutively and shall be securely closed and sealed in such a way as to prevent them being opened without the seal being broken.
- (3) All money received by a collector from contributors shall immediately be placed in a collecting box.
- (4) Every collector shall deliver, unopened, all collecting boxes in his possession to a promoter.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 12

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15 February 1974 - Present

# **Subjects** Charities

13.

A collector shall not carry or use any collecting box, receptacle or tray which does not bear displayed prominently thereon the name of the charity or fund which is to benefit nor any collecting box which is not duly numbered.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 13

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#### Version 1 of 1

15 February 1974 - Present

### Subjects

Charities

#### 14.—

- (1) Subject to paragraph (2) below a collecting box shall be opened in the presence of a promoter and another responsible person.
- (2) Where a collecting box is delivered, unopened, to a bank, it may be opened by an official of the bank.
- (3) As soon as a collecting box has been opened, the person opening it shall count the contents and shall enter the amount with the number of the collecting box on a list which shall be certified by that person.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 14

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15 February 1974 - Present

## Subjects

Charities

15.—

- (1) No payment shall be made to any collector.
- (2) No payment shall be made out of the proceeds of a collection, either directly or indirectly, to any other person connected with the promotion or conduct of such collection for, or in respect of, services connected therewith, except such payments as may have been approved by the licensing authority.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 15

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#### Version 1 of 1

15 February 1974 - Present

#### **Subjects**

Charities

#### 16.—

- (1) Within one month after the date of any collection the person to whom a permit has been granted shall forward to the licensing authority—
  - (a) a statement in the form set out in the Schedule to these Regulations, or in a form to the like effect, showing the amount received and the expenses and payments incurred in connection with such collection, and certified by that person and a qualified accountant;
  - (b) a list of the collectors;
  - (c) a list of the amounts contained in each collecting box;

and shall, if required by the licensing authority, satisfy it as to the proper application of the proceeds of the collection.

- (2) The said person shall also, within the same period, at the expense of that person and after a qualified accountant has given his certificate under paragraph (1)(a) above, publish in such newspaper or newspapers as the licensing authority may direct a statement showing the name of the person to whom the permit has been granted, the area to which the permit relates, the name of the charity or fund to benefit, the date of the collection the amount collected, and the amount of the expenses and payments incurred in connection with such collection.
- (3) The licensing authority may, if satisfied there are special reasons for so doing extend the period of one month referred to in paragraph (1) above.
- (4) For the purposes of this Regulation "a qualified accountant" means a member of one or more of the following bodies:—

the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales;

the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland;

the Association of Certified Accountants:

the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 16

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#### Version 1 of 1

15 February 1974 - Present

### **Subjects**

Charities

17.

These regulations shall not apply—

- (a) in respect of a collection taken at a meeting in the open air; or
- (b) to the selling of articles in any street or public place when the articles are sold in the ordinary course of trade.

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 17

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#### Version 2 of 2

12 October 1988 - Present

# **Subjects** Charities

18.

Any person who acts in contravention of any of the foregoing regulations shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding [level 1 on the standard scale]  $^1$ .

### **Notes**

Words substituted by Criminal Justice Act 1988 c. 33 Pt V s.55 (October 12, 1988 as SI 1988/1676)

Schedule 1 MODEL STREET COLLECTION REGULATIONS; > para. 18

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