

Appendix 3

Coventry City Centre Code of Conduct for Performers

There are currently 5 recognised pitches in Coventry City Centre. These will be reviewed on a continual basis. If you would like to busk outside of these designated sites please contact one of the team. This Code of Conduct describes your obligations to perform on our land and you are requested to comply fully with our requirements. Please be considerate of members of the public, other performers and the rights of city centre shopkeepers and business owners who are generating the footfall you are benefiting from

- ☒ A pitch can only be used for 60 minutes at a time.
- ☒ No sale of merchandise or goods will be allowed without a valid Street Trading Licence from Coventry City Council. Charity collectors must contact the licensing team.
- ☒ Low powered amplification may be used where appropriate, and the sound must be kept to a reasonable level so as not to cause disturbance or nuisance to surrounding businesses or the public
 - Noise (for example music or voice) should not be so loud that it can be plainly heard at a distance of 50m.
 - No group of performers shall consist of more than 5 members, this includes any associated non performing members who may solicit money from passers- by or similar
- ☒ Where accompanying backing music is used, the entertainers own music must form the greater part of the performance. Drumming should only be included as a minor part of the act.
- ☒ The appearance and quality of an 'act' should demonstrate a positive intention to entertain passers-by, not to solicit money through sympathy. Entertainers shall not dress, act or say anything which is likely to cause alarm, distress or offence to a member of the public.
- ☒ You must not wilfully obstruct the highway, obstruct shop exits/entrances, window displays or leave equipment on the floor which may be deemed a trip hazard.
- ☒ If buskers are causing a nuisance with noise , officers of the City Council reserve the right to terminate a performance and also have the power to take enforcement action under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. West Midlands Police also have powers where they consider a public nuisance or obstruction is being caused.
- ☒ No sign shall be displayed inviting payment (except where a collection or charity has been authorised).
- ☒ West Midlands Police are aware of this Code of Conduct and will take appropriate action against any entertainers who fail to comply with its requirements.
- ☒ It is the responsibility of non-musical entertainers (e.g. Jugglers/Statues) to have proof of their current public liability insurance (minimum £5 million) with them whilst entertaining.

Coventry City Council may demand a copy of the certificate. Performers must take the necessary precautions to prevent themselves or members of the public being put at risk.

☒ Entertainers perform entirely at their own risk.

☒ Any damage to property resulting from Street Entertainment is fully reinstated to the satisfaction of Coventry City Council, and that pitches are left in a clean and tidy condition.

☒ No right to perform is inferred by this code of practice and it does not confer indemnity from legislation designed to deal with nuisance or anti-social behaviour.

Recognised Pitches:

1 **HERTFORD STREET** – The corner of Penny Black Alley and the 99p Store. A busy area that is suitable for both busking and street theatre/performance. Seating for public in this area.(Busking area uncovered)

2 **UPPER PRECINCT** – Between Starbucks and the Empty old Job shop. Very busy area between Broadgate and the Precinct Fountain suitable for busking. Steps of the empty shop not to be used. (Covered)

3 **SMITHFORD WAY** – Outside Waterstones on Smithford Way. Very busy area suitable for busking. Some seating for public nearby. (Covered)

4 **SHELTON SQUARE** – Under the Market Clock or the bandstand. Semi covered area suitable for busking and street theatre/performance. Seating for public around the area of performance space (Small canopy, semi covered)

5 **BULL YARD** – Green Space opposite the Job Shop/Litten Tree. Busy area with good footfall. Seating for public scattered around the area and also some green space. Suitable for busking and street theatre /performance.(Uncovered)