

## **Busker and Street Entertainers Code of Conduct**

### **Revised Code 5:**

#### **5. Co-operate with Authorised Officers and the Police**

Authorised officers of the council, police officers, or police community support officers reserve the authority to request adjustments to your performance or relocation in situations involving emergencies, public disorder, planned events, or to prevent the occurrence of a nuisance. It is imperative to recognise that our officers and the Police possess this right without tolerance for threatening or abusive behaviour.

Your cooperation with any reasonable requests is expected. Any form of abuse, violence, or intimidation towards our authorised officers and/or police personnel will be met with zero tolerance and may result in the revocation of your licence or legal action against you. This stringent stance underscores our commitment to safeguarding the well-being and safety of our officers and the Police whilst undertaking their duties to ensuring the smooth functioning of public spaces and compliance with this licensing regime.

However, should you harbour concerns regarding the conduct of our officers while executing their duties you should raise your complaint with the council by visiting [www.westminster.gov.uk/complaints](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/complaints). For complaints associated with Police personnel please visit [www.met.police.uk/fo/feedback/complaints/complaints/](http://www.met.police.uk/fo/feedback/complaints/complaints/)

### **Revised code 7:**

#### **7. Talk to the council and the local community and use the Forum**

The best way to promote busking and build partnerships with residents and businesses is to keep in frequent contact with us and engage with your local community. There are many ways to do this including talking to local businesses and residents directly, joining a local Street Performers Association, attending wider community meetings, and providing us with feedback via our website.

The Council has also established a Buskers and Street Entertainment Forum that will meet three times a year and provides an opportunity for all licensed buskers and street entertainers to raise issues, provide feedback and share information with Council officers and key stakeholders, such as the Police or Council Events Team.

### **New code 8:**

#### **8. Child buskers and street entertainers**

The Council will not grant a licence to busk or provide street entertainment to any person under the age of 18 as it is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to busk.

Licensed buskers and street entertainers who are aged between Anyone between 14 years and 18 years old should be accompanied at all times whilst performing by their parent, legal guardian or appropriate adult.

Child buskers and street entertainers are not permitted to busk or perform during England's school term time, except on weekends and national bank holidays. Performances by licensed children between the hours of 7pm and 8am are also prohibited. Due to the localised nature of school inset days licensed child buskers and street entertainers will still be prohibited from busking or performing on days when their school is closed for days inset days.

#### **New Code 9:**

### **9. Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults**

All licensed buskers and street entertainers bear a responsibility to recognise signs of vulnerability and acknowledge their role in safeguarding children and vulnerable adults from harm.

Buskers and street performers are obligated to ensure that their performances are appropriate for the potential audience. The content of the performance should be crafted to avoid any material that could cause distress or offense to children or vulnerable adults.

In the event that a busker or street entertainer identifies signs of vulnerability or harbours safeguarding concerns, it is imperative to report such observations to the relevant authority. In cases where there is an immediate risk or harm to a child or vulnerable adult, the busker or street entertainer must promptly contact the police through 999. For non-emergency concerns, they should report the matter to the appropriate council service as outlined below:

Westminster Child Protection Team:

Telephone: 020 7641 4000

Email: [accesstochildrenservices@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:accesstochildrenservices@westminster.gov.uk)

Vulnerable Adults:

Telephone the safeguarding helpline: 020 7641 2176

Email: [adultsocialcare@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:adultsocialcare@westminster.gov.uk)

#### **New code 10:**

### **10. Making a false statement**

Buskers and street entertainers must make a true statement when applying for their licence and ensure that any information provided is correct to the best of their knowledge. If a licensed busker or street performer makes or has made a false statement the Council may revoke your licence, refuse to renew, and take legal action against you. If a person is found guilty of committing an offence of make a false statement under section 42(d), Part V of the London Local Authorities Act 2000 they could receive a fine of up to £1000.