



BUSKERS' CODE OF PRACTICE

Agreed at the Finance and General Purposes Committee on the 22nd March 2021

Dartmouth Town Council welcomes all types of music and entertainment to the Royal Avenue Gardens, the Old Market, Coronation Park and The Castle Estate but we politely ask you to respect other people and adhere to the following guidelines.

1. Music or voice should not be at a level or be so loud, that it can be heard at a distance of 50 metres. Busking must not be intrusive or a nuisance in nearby premises (commercial or residential) or affect the use of any public telephones.
2. Entertainment should be restricted to a maximum of one hour in any one place (pitch) and should not be repeated in that place or within 50 metres of it within 2 hours. Note: particularly noisy entertainment (e.g., bagpipes, drums) should be restricted to a maximum of 30 minutes in any one place.
3. Entertainers must not obstruct the highway, pavement, or entrances on Dartmouth Town Council property. Entertainers are also responsible for ensuring that the highway, pavement, or entrances to Dartmouth Town Council property are not obstructed by people gathering to listen or watch the performance. Note: 'obstruct' includes causing people to walk on a road rather than the pavement. Entertainers should not behave in any way that obstructs the highway or is anti-social.
4. Entertainers shall not make use of public seats.
5. Pitches chosen shall satisfy the above criteria and must not be within 50 metres of another busker.
6. No sign shall be displayed inviting payment (except where a collection for charity has been authorised by the Council or the Charity Commissioners).
7. No sign will be displayed for the purchase of goods or services.
8. Dartmouth Town Council does not condone anyone busking in the town to be using or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
9. Entertainers must stop performing immediately if requested to do so by a Police Officer, Dartmouth Town Councillor or Council Officer. Dartmouth Town Council supports the police in their policing of the town, and in dealing with any buskers who are behaving in an antisocial manner or ignoring the guidelines of the Buskers Code of Practice.

Note: The Police and the Council will not normally institute legal action where the code is observed. However, breaches may make a person liable to prosecution.