
Meeting: Regulation Committee
Date: 13 April 2011
Subject: Adoption of the Central Bedfordshire Council Street Trading Policy
Report of: Jane Moakes, Assistant Director Community Safety, Public Protection, Waste and Leisure
Summary: Adoption of a policy to assist in the regulation of Street Trading.

Contact Officer: Jo Borthwick (Service Manager) Patricia Davies (Licensing Co-Ordinator)
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: ALL
Function of: Regulation Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Regulation Committee resolve to adopt the Central Bedfordshire Council Street Trading Policy

Introduction

1. Adoption of Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 to enable the Council to control the numbers and quality of street traders in the area was approved by Full Council on 24 February 2011.
2. The Council published a notice of the resolution to adopt the provisions of Schedule 4 in the Bedfordshire Times and Citizen on 3 March 2011, and again on 10 March 2011 as required by legislation.

Adoption of the Street Trading Policy

3. A working group of members and officers was set up to look at the detail of the policy. This group met on 10 January 2011 and again on 9 February 2011.
4. Following these meetings additional exemptions were added to the policy, the application form was amended and agreed, and the fees were revisited and revised to a level acceptable to the working group.
5. Although there is no legal requirement for a policy, it was felt that it would benefit all parties to have clear guidelines set out on the intended approach to street trading by this authority.

Conclusion

7. Adoption of the policy will:

- Highlight the requirements and standards expected of street traders.
- Assist officers in following procedures for determining applications.
- Ensure that all applications are considered on their merits.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

Creating safer communities- The Council will be able to set conditions for consent to be granted which will help ensure that street trading is carried out safely and in a way which minimises risk of crime and disorder.

Managing growth effectively- The Council will be able to control the number and location of street traders,

Financial:

The costs of licensing street traders will be met by the fees paid for their consents.

Legal:

See point 5

Risk Management:

To ensure street trading is undertaken in a safe and regulated manner

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None

Equalities/Human Rights:

The Council has a legal duty to proactively promote race, gender and disability equality and to tackle discrimination experienced by other vulnerable groups. It is the role of the Licensing Authority to administer the licensing regime in accordance with the law and each application would be considered on merit.

Community Safety:

The adoption of the policy in relation to street trading will allow the Council to take all reasonable steps to reduce crime and disorder within Central Bedfordshire under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1988.

Sustainability:

In adopting this policy Central Bedfordshire Council can contribute to providing a vibrant and thriving leisure culture with safe and well run premises. Compliant businesses can be supported and resources can be focused at those businesses that fail to comply.

Appendices: Central Bedfordshire Council Street Trading Policy v3 10/03/2011.