

## Entertainment Details

Your Group/Trade Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Entertainment - *tick appropriate boxes* Guitar  
 Singer  Drums  Saxophone   
 Violin  Pan Pipes  Trumpet  Other\*   
 \*Describe \_\_\_\_\_

Will you use amplification equipment?  
 Yes  No

State number of entertainers: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of the Musicians Union?  
 Yes  No

## Convictions

Are there any unspent convictions or pending prosecutions recorded against the applicant?

Yes  No  *tick appropriate box.*

If Yes please tell us:

Date of Conviction (or next hearing)	Offence	Sentence (if applicable)

## Guidance Notes

Authorisations may be issued to street entertainers giving consent to busk at designated locations throughout the city subject to terms and conditions. We may also impose further special conditions if considered appropriate.

It is the entertainer(s)' responsibility to familiarise himself or themselves with the conditions regulating street entertainment. Authorisations may be withdrawn should any entertainer fail to comply with the conditions or any reasonable request made by officers of the Council. Occupation of a designated area is on a "booking" basis only and entertainers must vacate such areas if a charitable or other organisation has authority from the Council to collect in the authorised areas.

We want all entertainers to provide a vibrant and colourful service to the public. Do remember that some people may be working in nearby premises and might ask for music to be turned down. Try to abide by any reasonable requests. Do not obstruct shop entrances or pedestrian access in the precinct areas.



Licensing Section  
 Civic Offices  
 Guildhall Square  
 Portsmouth PO1 2AL  
 Telephone: 023 9283 4073  
 Email: [licensing@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)

# Street Entertainment Authorisation

A general guide to the law, policies and requirements for obtaining a street entertainment authorisation

[www.portsmouth.gov.uk](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk)

**THIS IS AN INFORMATION LEAFLET AND NOT A STATEMENT OF LAW OR HOW WE WILL DEAL WITH EACH INDIVIDUAL APPLICATION.**

For more details please go to the PCC web address at <http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/yourcouncil/18423.html>

[www.portsmouth.gov.uk](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk)

### Address

Licensing Section  
 Civic Offices Guildhall Square  
 Portsmouth PO1 2AL

### Email

[licensing@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)

### Telephone

(023) 9283 4073 or (023) 9283 4830

### Fax & answerphone

(023) 9283 4811 (Secure in our office)

### Opening Hours

Monday-Friday 9.00am-4.00pm

You can get this Portsmouth City Council information in large print, Braille, audio or in another language by calling 9283 4830.



Corporate member of Plain English Campaign  
 Committed to clearer communication.

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FOR OFFICE USE

Date Received  /  /      
 Granted  /  /      
 Date Permit Issued  /  /



## Introduction

If you want to provide street entertainment in certain precinct areas by way of 'busking' in Portsmouth then you must hold a Street Entertainment Authorisation issued to you by Portsmouth City Council. You are liable to be 'moved on' from entertainment sites by the Police or ourselves if you busk without the benefit of an authorisation.

This leaflet tells you:

- s What legal requirements you must meet to get an authorisation
- s What information we need from you to enable us to consider your application.

We will ask you to complete an application form (attached) and to provide other information in order that we can process your application. All information received will be treated with respect and in confidence.

Please read this leaflet carefully. Feel free to ask (or phone) for advice at any time.

## What are the legal requirements?

The Act of Parliament we have used to licence and regulate street entertainers is Section 145 of the Local Government Act 1972. This Act allows the Council to arrange for the 'provision of entertainment' and consequently the street entertainment scheme was introduced in selected precinct areas in June 1990.

Although 'busking' permits allow for persons to provide street entertainment in various identified sites in Portsmouth, you should note that various other statutes and powers are available for the Council or police to control other activities as follows:-

**“Trading”** If you sell or offer for sale goods (including say records, CD's or other merchandise) you will be breaking the law regarding street trading.

**“Noise Nuisance”** If you cause a noise nuisance by either the use of amplification equipment (or in other ways) the Council may take action by serving an abatement notice or may even prosecute you in serious cases.

**“Begging”** It is an offence to beg under the Vagrancy Acts.

**“Obstruction”** The police have powers to move on persons obstructing the highway. Even if you hold a permit you must not cause an obstruction or block the freeflow of pedestrian movement in the precinct area(s).

**“Charitable Collections”** You must not, under any circumstances make representations that money you collect will go to charitable or other purposes. Only authorised street collecting permits allow for such collections to take place.

**“Regulated Entertainment”** We do not consider that the provision of street entertainment by buskers is a regulated and licensable activity under the Licensing Act 2003.

## What information must you provide to us?

To help us consider your application it is our policy for you to show us:

- i) That you have completed the application form fully in every respect.

**WARNING - It is illegal for persons under 17 to play, sing or perform in a street for money or monies worth – contrary to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933. We must be satisfied that all persons are over 17 years of age.**

## Granting your permit

Once you have submitted your application, we will consider your request and aim to grant an authorisation as soon as practically possible

If you are making a postal application please supply one recent passport size colour photograph of yourself.

**Note – if the application is made by 2 or more persons comprising a group, only the photo of a “nominated” group member is required.**

**WARNING - Your authorisation will be granted subject to compliance with standard conditions (and any further special conditions we might impose). A breach of conditions may lead to the refusal to renew or revocation of the authorisation by the Council.**

The conditions will be given to you when your authorisation is granted.

Busking may take place in designated areas:

- s **Commercial Road Precinct**
- s **Arundel Street Precinct**
- s **Palmerston Road, Southsea**
- s **Cosham High Street Precinct**
- s **London Road, North End**

In order to busk within designated pitches in these areas, you must “pre-book” your preferred site by phoning the Licensing Service on the telephone number shown on the opposite page. A map of the designated sites in the above areas is available from the Licensing Service or at [www.portsmouth.gov.uk](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk).

*Portsmouth City Council will process your personal information in accordance with data protection law. The personal details provided by you will be used for licensing service purposes. Your details will be held on a database and where the law allows, may be shared with other departments within the council to update details they hold about you. The council may also be required to disclose personal information to third parties (such as Police, Department for Work and Pensions or for the National Fraud Initiative) for the purposes of preventing or detecting crime or apprehending or prosecuting offenders. For further information about how the Council collects and uses personal information please visit our website:*

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/the-council/data-protection-privacy-notice>

/ / B U S K E R

## Application for a Street Entertainment Authorisation

I wish to apply for the grant or renewal of a street entertainment authorisation. I have personally completed the application below and have been honest in giving this information. I have read and understood the conditions regulating street entertainment.

Signature

Date

## About yourself\*

Title:

First Name(s):

Surname:

Birth Date:

Age:

Home Address:

District:

Town:

County:

Postcode:

Tel:

Mobile:

Email:

\*Note: If applying on behalf of a group this part is to be completed by the person nominated to be the permit holder