

## Introduction

**B**usking is a long-established tradition which, when done well, adds to the attractiveness, colour and vibrancy of the town centre. It can create a happy and pleasant atmosphere that provides pleasure and entertainment to both local people and visitors to Teignmouth. This we welcome with open arms.

**B**usking by its very nature, tends to be an impromptu performance by an individual or small group of musicians who move from one pitch to another, perhaps several times, during the day. Larger groups or those which use more than a minimum of amplification do not generally come within the term busking and performances by such groups may require to be formally licenced.

## Nuisance

For those living or working in the town centre busking can become the source of intrusion and annoyance and, under some circumstances, could lead to a nuisance being caused, which could warrant action by the authorities, and this is especially so when amplification is used to support the performance.



## The Law

The law requires the Council (Teignbridge District) to take action to abate a noise which is deemed to be a nuisance, and this could involve the service of a legal notice, even the seizure of instruments or amplifiers, in some cases. Naturally nobody wishes the law to have to be enforced.

## The Buskers Code

To help, this code of practice has been drawn up, the aim of which is to seek 'harmony' between those busking, businesses and residents.

**B**usking is allowed in the named areas as listed below: -

- Triangles
- Bank Street
- Northumberland Place

**B**usking. Not before 10.00am and finish by 4.00pm.

**M**usic or voice is not to be amplified to a level or be so loud, as to be intrusive or a nuisance.

**I**f requested to reduce the volume of music, **B**uskers are asked to do so by reducing amplification or playing quieter tunes.

**B**uskers are asked to be respectful to all and should turn the volume down if requested to do so by a retailer, council officer, Police Officer or PCSO.

**B**uskers are requested not to occupy any pitch for more than one hour at a time and are asked that they move to another pitch, at least 50 metres away, after performing. Buskers are asked not to return to the same pitch again on the same day.

**N**o merchandise (CD's, posters, etc) is to be offered for sale. To do so a street trading licence is required.

[Apply for a street trading licence](#)

**B**uskers are not to set up a pitch within 50 metres of another busker.

**B**uskers are asked not to obstruct the flow of pedestrians in the street.

**C**ontributions are not to be solicited from passers-by. This could be regarded as begging and could result in arrest and prosecution.

**P**lease vary the repertoire



## What should you do?

If **B**uskers are disturbing you, either where you live or outside your place of work, you should:

Approach the **B**usker and explain politely that you are being troubled by the noise. You may be apprehensive, but often, people may be unaware that they are causing a problem. Most **B**uskers will be prepared to respond positively to a reasonable request. You may find it helpful to bring this code to their attention.

If the problem persists, contact the appropriate Council for advice on the number on the back of this leaflet. An officer may be able to visit to explain the code to the busker and, if necessary, to take the appropriate action.

## Health and Safety

Everyone who performs in the street has a responsibility to do so safely and should undertake a risk assessment and consider whether they should have public liability insurance cover



## Organised Events

Where street performances are planned in advance rather than simply impromptu occurrences, for example, by a larger group or as part of an organised event, then a licence may be required. Details and application forms can be found at:

[Apply for a Temporary Event Notice](#)

## Contact Details

### Report Noise and Nuisance

Teignbridge District Council

01626 361101

[Report noise to Teignbridge District Council](#)

### Advice and Help

Teignmouth Town Council

[www.teignmouth-devon.gov.uk](http://www.teignmouth-devon.gov.uk)

01626 775030



## Guide to Busking Teignmouth Town Centre

