



BUSKERS' CODE OF PRACTICE

1. Music or voice shall not be at a level or be so loud, that it can be heard at a distance of 50 metres. Considerate amplification is permitted but we ask that you are considerate of residents and local businesses. Busking must not be intrusive or a nuisance in nearby premises (commercial or residential), or affect the use of the public telephones. If asked by a shop trader to stop busking in front of their premises, entertainers should do so.
2. Entertainment is restricted to a maximum of one hour in any one place (pitch) and shall not be repeated in that place or within 50 metres of it within 2 hours. Note: particularly noisy entertainment (e.g. bagpipes, drums) will be restricted to a maximum of 30 minutes in any one place.
3. Entertainers shall not obstruct the highway, pavement or entrances to shops. Entertainers are also responsible for ensuring that the highway, pavement or entrances to shops is 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 authorised 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. Totnes Town Council does not condone anyone busking in the town to be using or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
8. Entertainers must stop performing immediately when requested to do so by a Police Officer or Council Officer. Totnes Town Council supports the police in their policing of the town, and in dealing with any buskers who are behaving in an antisocial manner and ignoring the principles 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. In addition, other persons may institute action under the same laws where breaches have occurred notwithstanding the code

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