

## Sensitive Areas and Private Land

In the following locations there is greater potential for busking performances to cause disturbance because of the enclosed nature of the streets and buildings and the way in which sound carries. Please do not busk in these locations if your act involves elevated noise levels. These areas include:

- Regent Court, Livery Street.
- Royal Priors Shopping Centre
- Satchwell Walk
- Satchwell Court

These areas are also private land and require permission from the landowner to busk in these locations: The landowner for these locations can be contacted on email: [security@regentcourtsc.co.uk](mailto:security@regentcourtsc.co.uk)

## Busking or Street Trading

Busking does not involve a formal sales transaction because donations are given to buskers by members of the public on a voluntary basis. Buskers wishing to trade on the street, for example in t-shirts, CDs or tickets will have to purchase a street trading consent from Warwick District Council. Further information is available on the council website.

[http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/info/20009/licensing/18/street\\_trading\\_licences](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/info/20009/licensing/18/street_trading_licences)

## Charitable Collections

Requests for donations for charity will require a permit from Warwick District Council. Further information is available on the council website. [www.warwickdc.gov.uk/info/20600/charities\\_and\\_voluntary\\_groups](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/info/20600/charities_and_voluntary_groups)

## Useful Contacts

### Warwick District Council

Safer Communities, Leisure and Environment

**Tel:** 01926 456725

**Email:** [ehpollution@warwickdc.gov.uk](mailto:ehpollution@warwickdc.gov.uk)  
[www.warwickdc.gov.uk/busking](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/busking)

### Business Support and Events Team

**Tel:** 01926 456012

**Email:** [events@warwickdc.gov.uk](mailto:events@warwickdc.gov.uk)  
[www.warwickdc.gov.uk/info/20598/town\\_centre\\_management](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/info/20598/town_centre_management)

### BID Leamington

**Tel.** 01926 470634

**Email:** [info@bidleamington.com](mailto:info@bidleamington.com)  
[www.bidleamington.com](http://www.bidleamington.com)

### Police

**Tel.** 101.

**Email:** [contactus@warwickshire.police.uk](mailto:contactus@warwickshire.police.uk)  
[www.warwickshire.police.uk](http://www.warwickshire.police.uk)

### Musicians' Union

**Tel.** 0121 2364028

**Email:** [midlands@themu.org](mailto:midlands@themu.org)

[www.musiciansunion.org.uk](http://www.musiciansunion.org.uk)

**Please note the Council and BID Office is not manned at the weekends. However you can still email, and an officer will contact you within two working days.**



# BUSKING

## Best Practice Guide in Warwick District

For the full Busking Guide, please visit  
[www.warwickdc.gov.uk/busking](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/busking)



## Introduction

The guide sets out some key recommendations to promote positive and neighbourly relations for all that share a public space.

A copy of the full busking guide is available on our website.

## For Buskers

### **Establish a good, cooperative relationship between you and the people around you.**

Where practical **introduce yourself** to nearby businesses and traders and let them know what you do and how long you intend to perform.

**Invite people to speak to you** directly in the event that they have a problem.

**Be willing to make adjustments.**

Take care **not to obstruct highways** or shop entrances and allow plenty of space for people to walk past you.

You need to be heard above background noise, but the volume of a performance should be no higher than it needs to be and the sound produced **should not be intrusive into the lives of others living or working nearby.**

Noise from louder instruments can carry further. Consider adapting your equipment where appropriate, using brushes or damping.

Get someone to help you fix your levels when you set up. Where possible, agree an appropriate level with the businesses around you.

Keep it **varied** and always consider your impact on those around you. **Excessive noise, long duration or repetition** can make the lives of nearby businesses or residents more difficult.

If you do receive a complaint, always remain courteous. Being calm and polite will go along way towards promoting positive relations. Try to reach a compromise if possible. Could you adjust your location and/or volume?

Be aware of any special events going on in the district as busking might not always be appropriate at particular times.

Please see [www.warwickdc.gov.uk/events](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/events) for a full listing of what is on.

**Warwick District, a great place to live, work and visit, where we aspire to build sustainable, safe, strong and healthier communities.**

**Feel free to draw attention to this guide.**

## Guidance for the public

### **Step 1 If you are disturbed**

Wherever possible approach the busker, wait for a suitable interval in their act then politely state what your issue is and attempt to come to a fair and amicable compromise.

### **Step 2 If a compromise cannot be reached**

Please contact:

**A Warwick District Council (see last page) if the issue is noise related.**

or

**B The Police if the problem is obstruction or a public order issue.**

### **Step 3 If the issue continues**

An officer will assess the situation to determine any impacts and whether the busker is at fault, they will notify the busker of this guidance and offer advice on how to busk more considerately. If the busker is found not to be at fault no further action will be taken.

### **Step 4 If the busker is believed to be acting unreasonably.**

The officer will collect and assess evidence from effected people and issue a formal **Warning Letter**. A complainant will also need to provide a formal statement.

### **Step 5 If there is no resolution**

As a last resort, legal action will be considered. Breach of legal notices served may lead to fixed penalty notices, prosecution and confiscation of equipment.