

Information on Busking

Nickii Humphreys, Licensing Manager

- **How much money is generated from busking licences per annum?**

There is no income associated with these permits as they are processed and issued free of charge with no expiry date.

- **How much money is generated per area - North End / Southsea / Commercial Rd (every main area we currently have a busking licence)?**

Not applicable as per comment above

- **Could we scrap busking fees for a year to encourage people to busk?**

See comments above.

- **How can we make it easier for people to busk?**

The process for applying for a permit is fairly simple (see link to the licensing webpage for street entertainment - [Street entertainment authorisations - Portsmouth City Council](#))

Applicants can apply electronically for the permit and following issue of the permit, they only need to telephone/email to make a booking for a pitch.

The conditions attached to such permits are available [here](#)

- **Do we have a map of busking sites?**

We do have maps which are available for buskers:

Appendix A - Arundel Street

Appendix B - Commercial Road

Appendix C - High Street, Cosham

Appendix D - London Road, North End

Appendix E - Palmerston Road

- **What was the income from busking when chargeable?**

From recollection and checking on our database, the fee was removed sometime around 2010/11 but unfortunately, I do not have those records anymore due to "cleaning up" our records when we moved over to SharePoint.

To look at each individual busking site for numbers to establish use would mean checking our booking diary for each individual entry but I can say that Commercial Road and Palmerston Road are the most requested locations. There is very little, if any, interest in the North End site but we have seen in the past use of the Cosham area.

The fee back then for an annual permit was £20 and in 2010 we had a total of 39 buskers registered in that year, so we are looking at income of under £1,000.

As there is no expiry date for these types of permits, our records show we have issued, to date, a total of 505 permits but this is obviously not a reflection of how many buskers are

currently using their permits in Portsmouth. I would look to the records in 2010 for a more accurate number of "active" buskers at any one time.