

## **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STREET PERFORMERS (BUSKERS)**

This Code of Conduct provides the framework to assist performers, businesses and residents in understanding the rules for busking. The aim is to foster an environment that encourages and enables a range of street performances, while recognising the importance of safety, amenity and minimising complaints and other issues. All street performers must comply with this Code of Conduct.

### **You can perform/busk anywhere in the central city except:**

- Parks and gardens, unless a permit has been obtained.
- New Regent Street.
- Victoria Square.
- Within five (5) metres of any intersection, pedestrian crossing, traffic signal, road works or ATM, unless a permit has been obtained.
- Outside, adjacent to or on the grounds of places of worship, religious, and memorial sites (e.g. cemeteries, Bridge of Remembrance, Earthquake Memorial).
- Directly in front of entrances or exits to shopping centres, arcades, businesses or residential buildings.
- Against the building line - to enable unobstructed access and safety for people who are visually impaired.
- Locations where events are being held, unless the street performer has permission of the event organiser (including Friday Food Trucks in Cathedral Square).
- Within 30 metres of another street performance.
- To perform outside the central city, a street performance permit must be obtained.

### **Code of Conduct**

- As a courtesy, street performers are encouraged to introduce themselves to the nearest stalls and shops, prior to starting their performance.
- A street performer may only perform between the hours of 10am and 6pm unless specifically authorised as part of an event permit, or a street performance permit.
- Street performers are limited to a maximum total time of 90 minutes on any one site. This includes up to 60 minutes of performance and up to 30 minutes of set-up, breaks and pack-down per day on any one site. Street performers must keep track of the time they arrive on site so that they know when their time has elapsed.
- Street performers may re-locate to another site after the maximum 90 minutes on a site however the new site must be at least 30 metres from the previous site.
- In the case of an event, a street performer should not attempt to associate themselves with that event and should be sited at least 250 metres from the periphery of that event, unless they are part of that event.
- Street performers may give audiences an opportunity to provide voluntary donations by placing a container on their site or by asking an audience for donations. Street performers

may not approach individuals requesting money or solicit funds in a way that is likely to cause any discomfort to members of the public.

- Street performers must take responsibility for their actions while performing in a public place, and retain complete control of every aspect of their performance.
- A street performance must not cause a nuisance to or disrupt business trading including retail and dining establishments, and workplaces, or detract from public amenity.
- Street performers are not covered under the Council's public liability insurance policy and are encouraged to hold their own public liability insurance.
- Street performers are responsible for maintaining pedestrian and traffic flow and public amenity at all times.
- Street performers should ensure that they or their audience do not block shop doorways during business hours, dining areas and cafes, bus stops, tram stops, fire escapes, roads and residential doorways.
- A street performer may not erect signage advertising their performance, unless they have a permit for the sign.
- Street performers must keep the site in use clean while they are working, and the performance site must be left in the condition that it was found.
- Inappropriate/offensive language must not be used
- The maximum number of buskers in any one group is four (4) unless a specific exemption is provided by an authorised officer.
- A parent or guardian must accompany anyone under the age of 14 years while performing. Proof of age may be requested.
- If someone complains to a street performer that they are causing a nuisance or disturbance, the performer should move on, or contact the Council to mediate.
- A street performer must not continue to perform at any location if requested to move on by any authorised officer.