

Code of Practice for Street Performers and Buskers

Whilst Leeds City Council welcomes activity which enhances the experience and atmosphere, buskers and street artists who wish to perform in Leeds city centre City Centre Management request that all performers comply with the following code of conduct:

Please note our code of conduct is in place to ensure that performers 'be a good neighbour' and take into consideration other city centre users including businesses, shoppers and other artists.

Code of Conduct

- When selecting your pitch please avoid blocking access to business and business entrances (for both public and staff) as well as other amenities such as cash machines and telephone boxes
- Please be respectful to on street traders including Yorkshire Evening Post and Big Issue Vendors, we recommend a 20m gap
- Please also avoid locating close to other street activity and fellow performers, we recommend a 100m gap
- You are responsible for ensuring that your presence does not cause obstruction of the highway, including gathering crowds to watch
- With respect to workers in our city centre shops and businesses do not perform for longer than 1.5 hours from the same location
- Amplification is not encouraged as often generates a number of complaints, at which point you would be requested to either lower the volume, move on or even cease performing altogether
- Leeds is a family friendly and city performers actions, appearance, dress, lyrics, script, props or any other aspect of performance must not be of a nature that could cause offence, alarm or other users of the city centre
- We recommend any minors are accompanied by an adult
- Performances must not be delivered in a manner that is dangerous to you or to members of the public
- Care must be taken in protecting your own equipment and/or any contributions gained
- Whilst we appreciate that members of the public may wish to contribute for enjoyable performances, you must not actively solicit monetary contributions, this includes signs or the passing around of a hat
- Selling is not permitted on the streets
- Performers must immediately comply with any request by an officer of the Council, Police or Fire Service to move location or cease busking

As a street performer in Leeds city centre I agree to

1. Be a good neighbour and consider other city centre users
2. Change location after 1.5 hours
3. Vary my repertoire
4. Keep volume to an acceptable level
5. Accept the advice of Leeds City Council officers / West Yorkshire Police
6. Not to block doorways, fire exits or the highway

If you have any additional questions regarding busking and street performances in the city centre or are a large group who wish to hire a dedicated city centre event space, please contact the City Centre Management team on 0113 247 4471 during office hours.