



# BUSKING PROCEDURE P4.0251.2

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# BUSKING PROCEDURE

**DIVISION:** Sport, Community and Activation

**BRANCH:** Economic Development & Activation

**CATEGORY:** 3

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## PART 1 – INTRODUCTION

### 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Council recognises that busking activity has an important role in the community for entertainment and enhancing the cultural vibrancy of local public places.
- 1.2 Camden Local Government Area (LGA) has a growing interest from local businesses and the community to support local musicians and live music in various venues in urban and open spaces and at community events. This requires a coordinated and strategic approach to support the increased level of requested activity.

### 2. OBJECTIVE

- 2.1 To provide a framework to manage and monitor busking as a commercial activity in the Camden LGA.
- 2.2 To provide a strategic and equitable approach to busking activities in the Camden LGA and manage it as a regulated activity in accordance with local laws.
- 2.3 To ensure busking activity is managed on Council-approved sites, and conducted with minimum negative impact on commercial activity of local business and ensure public safety.

### 3. SCOPE

- 3.1 The scope of this procedure includes:
  - Principles and criteria for the different types of busking activity permitted
  - The criteria Council must consider when determining applications for busking registration approval
  - The process of application for busker registration and how they will be processed for approval based on the nature of the busking activity
  - The determination of criteria and conditions for the permitted busking locations.
- 3.2 This procedure applies to Council staff across a number of branches who are:
  - Involved in the management and monitoring of busking, including receiving and processing applications for busking
  - Involved in the approval and issuing of General Busking Registrations

- Involved in ensuring compliance under health, safety and security regulations and local laws.

3.3 This procedure is supported by Council's Busking Policy.

## 4. DEFINITIONS

- 4.1 **Authorised person** means an appropriately delegated employee of Council.
- 4.2 **Busker** means a person who actively provides public performances in the public domain by dancing, singing, playing a musical instrument, reciting a story or poem, miming, puppetry, juggling, creating an artwork or pavement art, or performing acts of a similar nature in exchange for a donation from members of the public or as part of a Council-run event.
- 4.3 **Busking** means the performance or activity by a busker in the public domain.
- 4.4 **General Busking Registration** means a registration, after application to Council, issued under Council's Busking Policy which allows a musician or artist to busk in approved locations.
- 4.5 **Pavement art** means art that is drawn on to pavement as temporary public art, often ephemeral in nature, that can visually transform a pavement using easily removable drawing materials such as chalk and other approved material on paper, canvas or other removable surfaces.
- 4.6 **Public domain** means space that is generally open and accessible to people including the pavement, streets, public squares, parks, outdoor and open spaces.
- 4.7 **Special Busking Registration** means an approval that has been issued by a relevant peak body (if relevant) for street performers, required if undertaking performances involving dangerous acts or using dangerous implements or materials.

## PART 2 – PROCEDURE STATEMENT

### 5. PRINCIPLES

- 5.1 Development of an approved location list based on criteria and conditions.
- 5.2 Council will undertake consultation and engagement with local businesses nearby to busking sites.
- 5.3 Buskers must ensure the following:
- The performance is taking place on a Council-approved location.
  - The operation is no closer than 2 metres (if relevant) from the door of any premises open for business.
  - Use of objects to mark or draw on any footway or paved area is not permitted without Council approval.
  - Busking will not occur in an area adjacent to a place of worship.

- Entertainment activity will not create any disturbance during funeral services or other solemn occasions.
- The activity will not threaten public safety.
- The activity will not cause a nuisance or obstruct pedestrian or vehicle traffic and entrances to shops or buildings.
- That acts do not involve animals or reptiles.
- Acts are non-offensive.
- Amplified music is not utilised unless approved by an Authorised Person.
- They will not sell or offer for sale any articles, commodity or services with the exception of the busker's own original content.

## **6. BUSKING REGISTRATION**

- 6.1 Buskers must register with Council to receive a General Busking Registration.
- 6.2 On occasion buskers and street performers will be given special permission to work throughout Camden LGA for events endorsed and managed by Council in approved designated areas. This applies to Council events, partnerships or Council-supported special community events.
- 6.3 Special Busking Registration may be an additional requirement as assessed and approved by a relevant peak body (if relevant) for street performers, undertaking performances involving dangerous acts or using dangerous implements or materials.

## **7. REGISTRATION PROCESS**

- 7.1 General Busking Registration is available online through Council's website.
- 7.2 The registration will cover the period of January to December each year and be renewed annually on application.
- 7.3 Applicants must register online or in person at Council's Customer Service. By applying, the applicant acknowledges and agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of the registration.
- 7.4 All applicants must provide the following to Council when registering:
- Full name, address and contact phone number
  - Proof of identity with photo identification (driver's license, passport, student ID card)
  - Description of performance, sound bite or visual demonstration (for example, a performance on YouTube)
  - Provide minimum of \$20 million Public Liability coverage and Certificate of Currency
  - Any other relevant information required by Council.

- 7.5 Buskers under 18 years of age must register in person and be accompanied by a person 18 years and over.
- 7.6 The General Busking Registration will be processed by Council Officers and the registration issued to the applicant.
- 7.7 The applicant must then book a busking site prior to performing. Once booked, the details will be lodged in Council's booking system and confirmed with the busker.
- 7.8 A current General Busking Registration is to be displayed clearly whilst undertaking any busking activity within Camden.

## **8. FEES**

- 8.1 There will be no registration fees applicable to buskers or street performers.

## **9. APPROVED LOCATIONS**

- 9.1 Council approves standard sites, under the Busking Policy, that have been assessed as suitable for busking activity.
- 9.2 Alternate sites may be considered on registration, assessment and review.
- 9.3 Busking times at each location are specific to the location and established in consultation with local businesses that may be impacted by the busking activity.
- 9.4 A visual map and information sheet is available on Council's website outlining approved sites.

## **10. REVIEW**

- 10.1 Monitoring of busking activity will be the responsibility of the Economic Development and Activation Branch.
- 10.2 This procedure will be reviewed every three years with ongoing monitoring to inform future decision making on busking activity.

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**RELEVANT LEGISLATIVE INSTRUMENTS:**

*Local Government Act 1993*  
*Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*  
*Protection of Environment Operations Act 1997*  
*Protection of the Environment Operations (Noise Control) Regulation 2017*

**RELATED POLICIES, PLANS AND PROCEDURES:**

Camden Council's Community Strategic Plan (CSP) 2036  
Our Future Camden-Camden Town Centre Vision 2015  
Camden Town Centre Urban Design Framework 2018  
Camden LGA Destination Management Plan 2016  
Camden Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2020  
Camden Development Control Plan (DCP) 2019  
Busking Policy  
Cultural Activation Strategy 2022-2026  
Sport, Community and Activation

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR:**

**APPROVAL:**

General Manager through the Executive Leadership Group

**HISTORY:**

<b>Version</b>	<b>Approved by</b>	<b>Changes made</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>EDMS Number</b>
1	ELG	New	19/09/2019	19/351129
2	ELG	Minor amendments	18/08/2022	19/351129