



Walsall Council

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO THE LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

27th May 2020 at 4.00pm

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1982

WALSALL COUNCIL LICENSING SERVICE STREET TRADING POLICY

1.0 Summary of report

- 1.1 This report informs the Licensing and Safety Committee of the Licensing Services intention to introduce a Street Trading Policy for the first time for Walsall Council.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 The committee is asked to consider the information contained in the report including the draft Street Trading Policy and agree that Officers pursue a full public consultation before bringing the Policy and consultation results back before members for agreement before full adoption of the Policy.

3.0 Background information

- 3.1 Walsall Council adopted Street Trading legislation under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 in 1983.
- 3.2 The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 (Section 3 and Schedule 4) provides the legal framework for the control of street trading in England and Wales. This activity is defined as 'the sale and exposing or offering for sale of any article, (including a living thing) in a street'.
- 3.3 Street trading helps enhance the streets of Walsall. Street trading provides valuable employment opportunities for local people as well as a seedbed of entrepreneurship, allowing new entrants to test their business skills and ideas in an environment which has a low start-up costs, minimal overheads and existing customer footfall.
- 3.4 Since adoption of the legislation, the Councils processes, procedures and Borough itself have developed. Whilst there appears no intention by central government to modernise street trading legislation, this

should not stop authorities looking at improving and modernising the way they do things locally.

- 3.5 Introducing a Street Trading policy will better inform applicants and the public on the expectations that Walsall Council has in terms of street traders. It will also help promote the objectives that will be introduced through the policy and aid better regulation of the industry. The policy aims to ensure that traders are able to trade safely, that they are compliant with all necessary requirements and minimise any risk to the general public.
- 3.6 APPENDIX 1 is the existing conditions document that forms part of the licence or consent once issued.
- 3.7 APPENDIX 2 is the draft Street Trading Policy we are seeking approval to consult upon.
- 3.8 On the 5th February 2020, Licensing Officers wrote to the existing street traders informing them that Walsall Council were looking to introduce a policy for street trading. The trade were asked if there was anything that they would like to see within the policy or any feedback they wished to provide. No feedback was received from the existing trade.
- 3.9 Licensing Officers have held preliminary discussions with responsible authorities such as Public Health, Markets and Environmental Health to discuss the policy and how we can work together in making the policy work for the council and all involved in the process.

4.0 Resource considerations

- 4.1 **Financial:** The policy will have an impact on existing trade. This may result in representations or objections from the trade, members of the public or responsible authorities. As part of the process the licensing authority will be looking at reviewing the fees for street trading.
- 4.2 **Legal:** Members of the public, the trade or responsible authorities can appeal against the policy. The policy could also be judicially reviewed.
- 4.3 A district council may by resolution designate any street in their district as—
 - (a) a prohibited street -a street in which street trading is prohibited
 - (b) a licence street - a street in which street trading is prohibited without a licence granted by the district council;
 - (c) a consent street - a street in which street trading is prohibited Without the consent of the district council

4.4 Section 3 (1) states that an application for a new or renewal of a street trading licence shall state the applicant's name & address, street in which-, days on which and times between which he desires to trade, the description of articles in which he desires to trade, and the description of any stall or container which he desires to use in connection with his trade in those articles and any such particulars as the council may reasonably require.

4.5 Subject to sub-paragraph (8) below, the council may refuse an application on any of the following grounds—

- (a) that there is not enough space in the street for the applicant to engage in the trading in which he desires to engage without causing undue interference or inconvenience to persons using the street;
- (b) that there are already enough traders trading in the street from shops or otherwise in the goods in which the applicant desires to trade;
- (c) that the applicant desires to trade on fewer days than the minimum number specified in a resolution under paragraph 2(11) above;
- (d) that the applicant is unsuitable to hold the licence by reason of having been convicted of an offence or for any other reason;
- (e) that the applicant has at any time been granted a street trading licence by the council and has persistently refused or neglected to pay fees due to them for it or charges due to them under paragraph 9(6) below for services rendered by them to him in his capacity as licence-holder;
- (f) that the applicant has at any time been granted a street trading consent by the council and has persistently refused or neglected to pay fees due to them for it;
- (g) that the applicant has without reasonable excuse failed to avail himself to a reasonable extent of a previous street trading licence.

4.6 Section 5 of the act states:

"A district council may at any time revoke a street trading licence if they consider—

- (a) that, owing to circumstances which have arisen since the grant or renewal of the licence, there is not enough space in the street for the licence-holder to engage in the trading permitted by the licence without causing undue interference or inconvenience to persons using the street;
- (b) that the licence-holder is unsuitable to hold the licence by reason of having been convicted of an offence or for any other reason;

(c) that, since the grant or renewal of the licence, the licence-holder has persistently refused or neglected to pay fees due to the council for it or charges due to them under paragraph 9(6) below for services rendered by them to him in his capacity as licence-holder; or
(d) that, since the grant or renewal of the licence, the licence-holder has without reasonable excuse failed to avail himself of the licence to a reasonable extent.

4.7 Section 7 (4) of the act states:

“When granting or renewing a street trading consent the council may attach such conditions to it as they consider reasonably necessary.

Without prejudice to the generality of sub-paragraph (4) above, the conditions that may be attached to a street trading consent by virtue of that sub-paragraph include conditions to prevent—

- (a) obstruction of the street or danger to persons using it; or
 - (b) nuisance or annoyance (whether to persons using the street or otherwise).
- (6) The council may at any time vary the conditions of a street trading consent.

Subject to sub-paragraph (8) below, the holder of a street trading consent shall not trade in a consent street from a van or other vehicle or from a stall, barrow or cart.

The council may include in a street trading consent permission for its holder to trade in a consent street:

- (a) from a stationary van, cart, barrow or other vehicle; or
- [\(b\)](#) from a portable stall

4.8 The act also states:

“The holder of a street trading licence or a street trading consent may employ any other person to assist him in his trading without a further licence or consent being required.

A district council may charge such fees as they consider reasonable for the grant or renewal of a street trading licence or a street trading consent.

A council may determine different fees for different types of licence or consent and, in particular, but without prejudice to the generality of this sub-paragraph, may determine fees differing according—

(a) to the duration of the licence or consent;

(b) to the street in which it authorises trading; and

(c) to the descriptions of articles in which the holder is authorised to trade.

5.0 Staffing:

5.1 Nothing arising from this report.

6.0 Citizen Impact

6.1 Nothing arising from this report.

7.0 Community Safety

7.1 The introduction of the policy is for the benefit of the community and people of Walsall.

8.0 Environmental Impact

8.1 Discussions with other services and partners could lead to Policy decisions being made that have a positive effect on litter control, waste disposal, noise and fumes from generators.

9.0 Performance and Risk Management Issues

9.1 None arising from this report.

10.0 Equality Implications

10.1 None arising from this report

11.0 Consultation

11.1 None.

12.0 Appendices

12.1 None.

13.0 Contact Officer:

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Conditions with Regard to Street Trading Licences & Consents

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1982 (the Act)

A. Definitions

1. Operator means the holder of a street trading licence or consent and all his employees or agents.
2. Licence – includes a street trading consent.
3. Vehicle – includes any stall, barrow, cart etc, used in connection with trading.
4. Trading – the offering for sale of any goods or items including food.
5. Street – shall include any area to which the public has free access without payment.
6. Any other term not defined in these conditions shall have the same meaning as in the act.

B. General

1. The operator must make his licence available at all times to any authorised officer of the council or police officer.
2. The licence/consent disc provided by the council shall be displayed at all times in a visible place on the vehicle.
3. The operators licence must be forwarded to the local authority before 31st March each year for renewal.
4. The times and areas defined on the licence must be strictly adhered to.
5. Any granting by the local authority of a licence/consent does NOT imply any permission whatsoever with regard to planning permission under the Town & Country Planning Acts.
6. The granting of a licence/consent does not give any authority to infringe any bye-laws, regulations or statutes whatsoever and the same must be strictly observed.
7. The operator shall comply with all reasonable requests made by authorised officers of the council and police officers.

C. Environmental Health

1. The operator (where trading in food) shall at all times observe the provisions of all relevant regulations passed by virtue of the food and drugs Act 1953, these include The Food Hygiene (general) Regulations, 2006 and the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1990.
2. The operator shall not cause a nuisance of any kind. If such a nuisance is being caused the permitted site can be changed.
3. The operator shall ensure that no refuse waste is dropped from the vehicle and shall ensure that any litter deposited near the vehicle shall be removed at regular intervals and in particular at the close of trading.
4. The operator shall at all times comply with the reasonable instructions of officers from Environmental Health and consumer services.
5. All premises within the borough used for the storage of food must be registered with Environmental Health and Consumer Services.
6. No waste water is to be discharged from the vehicle.
7. The vehicle shall be available at any reasonable time for inspection by officers from Environmental Health and Consumer Services.
8. Suitable food storage premises should be provided and shall be to the satisfaction of officers from Environmental Health and Consumer Services. Domestic accommodation is not suitable.

D. Planning & Transportation

1. The granting of a street trading licence does not give any permission (express or implied) for the operator to infringe any Traffic Regulation Order.
2. All parking restrictions in any street must be strictly adhered to by the operator.
3. The operator of the vehicle must not obstruct the free flow of pedestrians at any time.
4. The operator must not park or site their vehicle within 200 metres of any school entrance.
5. The operator must not trade from a point within 200 metre of an existing trader of a similar nature.

(Note: this condition does not apply in respect of sites in Walsall Town Centre. A full consultation exercise will be undertaken before an approval is given to the scale of any commodity to be sold from street trading sites in Walsall Town Centre.)

Annex 1

6. The operator must not park or site their vehicle on a classified road or prohibited area at any time.
7. The operator must comply with all reasonable instructions given by officers from Planning & Transportation services regarding the initial location and relocation of sites and other such related matters.
8. The type and appearance of units by licence holders (static traders only) to be approved by officers from Planning & Transportation services.

(N.B. The criteria for determining compliance with the above condition is detailed below);-

- (a) mobile units only to be used (i.e all units must be on wheels so that they can be moved quickly in an emergency);
 - (b) all units must be free standing;
 - (c) stands which are to be assembled on site are not to be used;
 - (d) The appearance of all units must not be detrimental to the existing properties in the area in which the units are located.
9. The following condition will be applied at the discretion of Planning & Transportation Services:
A licensed vehicle must not be parked or sited within 20 metres of any road junction.

E. Public Liability Insurance

All street traders are required to provide original documentary evidence to confirm that public liability insurance has been arranged in the sum of £5 million.

F. Environmental Health Conditions on Chimes & Loudspeakers

The following conditions apply to ice cream vans and any other vehicle from which food will be sold using a chime or loudspeaker.

1. The loudspeaker should only be operated between 12:00 pm till 19:00.
2. The loudspeaker is fixed to a vehicle used for the conveyance or sale of perishable food.
3. The loudspeaker is used solely for informing members of the public that goods are for sale.
4. The loudspeaker is not operated in a way as to give rise to annoyance to persons in the vicinity.

Annex 1

5. The volume of the chime or music must be carefully adjusted so as to avoid distortion of the sound.
6. The noise level from a loudspeaker should not exceed 80 dB(A) in any direction.
7. The chime must not last more than 4 seconds.
8. The chimes must be played only once on the approach to each stopping place, never when the van is stationary, and never at intervals of less than 3 minutes.
9. The chimes should not be played when in sight of another van which is also in operation.
10. The chimes should not be played within 50 metres of any hospital.
11. Chimes should not be played within 50 metres of a school during school hours.
12. The chimes should not be played within 50 metres of a place of worship on a recognised day of worship.



Walsall Council

Street Trading Policy



DATE

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1. Introduction

Walsall is an industrial town in the West Midlands of England. It is located 8 miles north-west of Birmingham and 6 miles east of Wolverhampton. Historically part of Staffordshire, Walsall is a component area of the West Midlands conurbation.

Walsall is the administrative centre of the wider Metropolitan Borough of Walsall. At the 2011 census, the town's built-up area had a population of 67,594, with the wider borough having a population of 269,323. Neighbouring settlements in the borough include Darlaston, Brownhills, Willenhall, Bloxwich and Aldridge.

The name Walsall is thought to have derived from the words "Walh halh", meaning "valley of the Welsh speakers" (referring to the Brythons). Walsall is first referenced as 'Walesho' in a document dated 1002. Possibly as a result of a clerical error, it is not referred to in the Domesday Book, while the settlements of Aldridge, Bescot, Shelfield, Pelsall, Bloxwich, Great Barr and Rushall within the Metropolitan Borough are. However, it is believed that a manor was held here by William FitzAnsculf, who held numerous manors in the Midlands. By the first part of the 13th century, Walsall was a small market town, with the weekly market being introduced in 1220 and held on Tuesdays. The mayor of Walsall was created as a political position in the 14th century.

This policy is a decision making framework for the consideration of applications for street trading licences and consents. The aim of the policy is to create a street trading environment which is sensitive to the needs of the public and consumer choice, ensures safety and contributes to the character and ambience of the local environment. Street trading can aid the local economy and contribute to the facilities offered to people who visit, live and work in the borough of Walsall.

Committees

The licensing of street trading is a Council function that is discharged by the Council's Licensing and Safety Committee to Licensing Sub-Committee and officers in accordance with delegated authority set out in the Council's Constitution.

Whilst officers and the relevant committees will, in the majority of cases, follow the Policy, there may be specific circumstances that require a departure from the Policy. In such circumstances, the reasons for departing from the Policy will be made clear.

Licensing & Safety Committee - This Committee is made up of 15 members of the Council. It deals with policy issues, standard conditions of licences and consents and the setting of fees and charges.

Licensing Sub-Committee - The Committee has been established to consider applications and hear objections in relation to licensing matters, it is made up of a selection of Members from the Licensing & Safety Committee. Five Members (Quorum of 3) will sit on hearings to consider new/renewal applications with objections, reviews of licences and consents that are referred by officers, and any other matter officers feel necessary.

Members, when determining new applications, renewals or reviews of a licence or consent, will have regard to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 and other relevant legislation including the Human Rights Act 1998, the Equality Act 2010, any relevant legal case law and other relevant Council policies in particular the Enforcement Policy.

On receipt of relevant written representations and/or if the applicant has not met the criteria, arrangements will be made for the application to be heard by the Licensing and Safety Sub-committee. The applicant and all parties making representations will be notified in writing of the date, time and place where the application will be determined.

The person or body making a representation will be expected to attend the hearing and be allowed the opportunity to address the Licensing and Safety Sub-committee and ask questions relating to the application. The applicant can be represented by a solicitor, or supported by a friend or colleague.

Licensing & Safety committees and Sub-committees reserves the right to deviate from the policy as and when appropriate.

2. About this policy

Walsall Council adopted Street Trading legislation under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 in 1983. This policy has been created to accommodate the modern era and protect members of the public and communities in Walsall e.g. businesses and street traders.

The intention of this Policy is to provide guidance on matters, which should be considered when deciding whether to grant to a person a Street Trading Licence/consent. Its aim is to provide, insofar as is possible, consistent decision making so as to develop and thereafter maintain public confidence in Walsall Council's performance of its duties.

3. Why do we have street trading?

Street trading provides valuable employment opportunities for local people as well as a seedbed of entrepreneurship, allowing new entrants to test their business skills and ideas in an environment which has a low start-up costs, minimal overheads and existing customer footfall.

Goods on sale in the street provide convenient access to hot and cold drinks, fresh fruit and vegetables, household goods and other services for local communities, those travelling to work, and the visitors to Walsall. Street trading supports the Council's priority to encourage a vibrant and prosperous economy.

The introduction of the policy is to promote the licensing objectives introduced by Walsall Council:

- Public Safety
- Prevention of crime and disorder
- Prevention of public nuisance
- Visual Amenity
- Needs of the area
- Protection and promotion of the public's health in Walsall

4. Definition of street trading

The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 (Section 3 and Schedule 4) provides the legal framework for the control of street trading in England and Wales. This activity is defined as **‘the sale and exposing or offering for sale of any article, (including a living thing) in a street’**.

The Act defines the term ‘street’ as including:

‘any road, footway, beach or other area to which the public have access without payment; and a service area as defined in section 329 of the Highways Act 1980’.

The broad definition of ‘street’ ensures that other areas, such as gardens, car parks, fore courts etc are captured under the legislation.

The Act in paragraph 1(2) of schedule 4 states that the following types of trade are not street trading:

- **A pedlar trading under the authority of a pedlar’s certificate granted under the Pedlar’s Act 1871;**
- **Anything done in a market or fair, the right to hold which was acquired by virtue of a grant, enactment or order;**
- **Trading in a trunk road picnic area provided by the secretary of state under section 112 of the Highways Act 1980.**
- **Trading as a news vendor.**
- **Trading carried on at a premises used as a petrol station.**
- **Trading carried on at premises used as a shop or in a street adjoining a shop where the trading carried on is part of the business of the shop.**
- **Selling things, or offering or exposing them for sale as a roundsman.**

Local authorities can place conditions on any Licence or Consent granted.

The Act also creates offences associated with trading in Licence or Consent streets without the necessary authority: the person guilty of such an offence may be liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding level 3 (£1,000).

5. Types of Streets

Streets may be designated as either 'prohibited', 'licensed' or 'consent streets' for the purpose of street trading.

Definitions:

Prohibited streets

If a street is designated as a prohibited street then a criminal offence is committed by any person engaging in street trading in that street. There could be a number of reasons for wishing to designate a street as prohibited. For example the street may not be wide enough to facilitate a trader or the council may wish to restrict trading in a particular location. Walsall Council has a list of prohibited streets within the borough where no street trading is permitted. A list of prohibited streets will be available on the council's website.

Licensed streets

A licensed street designation is considered appropriate for the more formalised market type of trading in a street where the strict control of a limited amount of space is required. Walsall Council has a list of licensed streets within the borough.

Consent Streets

Designating a street a consent street enables trading to take place upon it, subject to the trader receiving consent to trade from the Council. Any streets that are not on the list for prohibited streets or licensed streets are classed as consent streets.



A list of prohibited & Licensed Streets can be found by going on to the link below.
<https://go.walsall.gov.uk/Portals/0/Uploads/Licensing/Application%20Pack%202018%20-%202019.pdf>

6. Street Trading Within the Borough of Walsall

Street trading licences and consents are issued by Walsall Council. The streets in Walsall are designated as Prohibited, licence and consent streets. The link below will take you to the list of streets that are designated in Walsall as Prohibited and Licensed streets.

https://go.walsall.gov.uk/street_trading

Any streets not listed are designated as consent streets.

The licences/consents come under the following classifications:

Licence – Static

This is a licence that lasts 12 months and enables the trader to trade from a fixed location that is designated as a licensed street.

Consent – Static

This is a consent that lasts for any period not exceeding 12 months. The consent enables the trader to trade from a fixed location which is designated as a consent street.

Consent – Mobile

This is a consent that lasts up to 12 months unless otherwise revoked by Walsall Council. The consent enables the trader to trade from streets within the borough of Walsall which are designated as consent streets.

MOBILE CONSENTS WILL ONLY BE GRANTED TO CONTAINED VEHICLES.

(For the definition of a contained vehicle please see page 22 – Definitions)

Temporary Street Trading

This type of licence or consent is for short period of time mainly used for special occasions (e.g. Mothers Day/Valentines Day/Christmas Period). See section 11.

The Council will adopt any reasonable conditions that it deems necessary and appropriate to ensure that traders comply with relevant legislation and the fundamental purpose of the Policy.

Street Trading licences/consents are issued for a maximum period of 12 months from the date of grant.

The council may at any time vary the conditions of a street trading consent.

Street Traders are only permitted to operate one vehicle/trailer/stall etc. per licence/consent at anyone time. Should applicants wish to operate a second site/vehicle they will be required to submit an additional application.

7. Key considerations when assessing an application

The following criteria apply to all types of street trading:

Public safety

- The proposed location of the activity should not present a risk to the public in terms of highway safety and obstruction.
- Some locations may be considered unsuitable or may require an officer visit before a consent can be issued.
- Applications in respect of sites that have previously been the subject of refusal due to the unsuitability of the location are unlikely to be accepted.
- Applicants will be required to provide risk assessments in relation to their businesses.
- Risk assessments must take in to consideration flammable substances, storage of flammable substances etc.

Prevention of crime and disorder

- The proposed activity should not present a risk to the public or the trader.
- Risk assessments must also take in to consideration the handling of cash and the time of trading.
- Any utensils or cutlery must be kept safe and away from access to it by members of the public.

Prevention of nuisance

- Activities at the site whilst trading must not cause a nuisance or annoyance to neighbouring properties including businesses. Controls must be in place to ensure that nuisance from noise, light, refuse, vermin, fumes, obstruction, littering, and smells does not occur.
- If at any time we receive complaint(s) that nuisance is occurring, we are duty bound to investigate and, if complaints are found to be justified, appropriate action will be taken and this may lead to suspension or revocation of the licence or consent.
- A refuse bin must be kept on site for static licences.
- The refuse bin will be the responsibility of the applicant or employees to clean at the end of each trading day.

Visual Amenity

- The council expects a high standard of presentation and appearance from its street traders.
- The appearance of the stall must be clean and tidy and free from any rust or damage.
- Stalls must be clean at all times.

Needs of the area

- The sufficiency of other trading outlets selling the same or similar goods/products within 200 metres (excluding Town Centre) will be taken in to consideration when deciding applications.

Protection and promotion of the public's health in Walsall

- Consideration will be made within this policy of how the health of the public in Walsall can be protected and promoted as far as is reasonably possible.
- Particular attention will be paid to the promotion of the health of children and young people in Walsall.

Suitability of the applicant

- Each application will be passed to West Midlands Police for consideration.
 - Walsall Council will consider any convictions or cautions the applicant may have.
 - Each applicant will be required to submit a basic disclosure (for the purposes of a street trading application the certificate will only be valid for three calendar months from the date of issue). If applying as a limited company, a basic disclosure is required from all company directors.
 - Proof of right to work in the UK will be required.
 - An applicant's history of street trading will be taken into consideration e.g. whether previous street trading licences or consents have been used appropriately, whether deadlines have been adhered to and the reliability of the applicant in paying fees and charges.
 - Whether any applications to other local authorities have been refused or revoked.
- If trading in food or drink:
- A declaration that you have registered as a food business;
 - Evidence of current training to a level equivalent to the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) Level 2 Food Hygiene Certificate for the food business operator and those staff who have a supervisory role in the preparation and handling of open high risk foods;
 - Applicant's will be inspected by our Environmental Health Team once Licence/Consent has been granted.
 - Applicant's will be required to obtain a minimum 4 star rating from the Environmental Health team, should you not receive the minimum star rating, your licence or consent may be revoked/refused (this includes temporary traders).
 - Applicants will be expected to have an awareness of the CIEH's guidance on outdoor & mobile catering if selling food

Criminal record disclosure is relevant to those persons who wish to apply for a street trading licence or consent because the council has a responsibility to ensure the suitability of the applicant for this particular permission. The council has adopted a relevant convictions policy to help consider applications (please see attached Appendix 1)

Additional workers

- Any additional persons working from the stall must have submitted an additional worker form to the licensing authority.
- Additional worker will be someone who will be working for more than 7 days.
- Additional workers will be required to provide evidence of right to work in the UK and 2 passport sized photographs.
- All additional workers must pay a fee for an Identification badge (ID) to be issued to them.
- ID badges must be worn and visible to members of the public whilst trading.
- The licensing authority must be notified in writing on circumstances where temporary cover of trading has been arranged, this cannot exceed 7 days.

Suitability of the trading stall

- The stall to be used should be of a high quality design, build, add to the quality of the street scene and be adequate for the purpose intended.
- The stall may be inspected by an officer from Walsall Council prior to licence or consent being issued.
- The stall will comply in all respects with any legal requirements relating to the activity proposed.

- The stall must be removed each evening, unless it is permitted to remain in situ.
- The stall shall be of such a design that it facilitates timely and efficient removal.
- The stall shall be of robust construction and materials that the daily removal will not result in the rapid deterioration in appearance of the unit.
- Stalls and ancillary equipment and stock must be contained within the site.
- Prior to any licence/consent being issued or in cases where a consented trader wished to change the stall, prior approval must always be sought from the Council. Proposals must include all display equipment and any attached, projecting or free standing elements.
- The design and appearance of the stall must be agreed by an officer from the Council before consent will be granted.
- Applicant's who wish to use a contained vehicle for street trading will be required to submit a valid MOT certificate on application and renewal.
- Contained vehicles are required to provide valid motor vehicle insurance to cover the period of the licence or consent.
- Trailers or mobile vehicles that have had Gas, LPG or electric installed must provide Gas safety certificates and electrical installation certificates.
- Where the proposed street activity is from a fixed position (Static site), a map of the exact location for the stall will be required detailing the size of the stall.
- The map should be to a scale of at least 1:1250 scale clearly outlining the proposed trading location in red.
- An additional map is required to scale, clearly identifying the precise trading position and its proximity to other similar retail outlets (shops etc.) or roads nearby.
- 3 colour photographs of any stall that will be used for the street trading activity showing the front, rear and side of the unit. The photographs must also show any proposed branding and/or advertisements that will be displayed.

Generators

- Generators shall be positioned to reduce the length of cabling required to an absolute minimum and to minimise nuisance to local residents or businesses from noise or fumes. Where required, silenced generators or acoustically insulated generators should be sourced.
- Prior approval must be attained in relation to the use of generators and type of generators.
- Walsall Council does not currently restrict the use of petrol or diesel generators, however this may be reviewed in future updates of this policy. Electricity from renewable sources such as solar panels is encouraged.

Advertising

- Advertising should only relate to goods offered for sale from the business.
- Third party advertisements are prohibited.
- It is not permitted to illuminate any advertisement on the outside of the stall.
- The use of 'A' boards must be in accordance with Walsall Council's policy.
- Applicants will be required to send photographs and dimensions of the type of A Boards they wish to use.
- Any advertisement in relation to alcohol (except for seasonal temporary consent/licence), political or sexual nature, gambling will be prohibited.

Barriers & Furniture

- Permission must be sought from the council should you wish to have any barriers, tables, chairs, planters etc on site when applying for a static licence or consent. This may fall under a different legislation and process.

- Barriers, tables, chairs, planters etc are not permitted for mobile consents

Hours of trading

Trading hours will be set on the basis of promoting the following purposes:

1. Preventing crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour.
2. Avoiding nuisance.
3. Protecting public safety.
4. Preventing obstruction of the highway.
5. Having regard to location and operating hours of business activity.
6. Protecting and promoting the public's health.

Selling the right goods

The council will use discretionary powers to grant permission for the sale of goods which conflict with those provided by nearby shops. If a street trader has used a location regularly and a shop selling similar goods begins trading in the area, the Council may choose to continue to grant licence or consent to that street trader. The types of goods allowed to be sold will be considered on a case by case basis.

Sales of fireworks will be strictly prohibited as part of any street trading due to health and safety reasons.

Anyone wanting to have a stall must clearly state the nature of the proposed goods. The goods must not:

- Cause a nuisance or annoyance to nearby properties or people, including cooking smells, smoke, noise, litter and additional cleansing requirements for the Council.
- Cause or contribute to crime and disorder.

Site assessment

In determining whether street trading in a particular area is appropriate the council will have regard to:

- Any effect on road safety, either arising from the location of the site or from customers visiting or leaving.
- Any loss of amenity caused by noise, traffic, smell etc.
- Existing traffic orders e.g. waiting restrictions.
- Any potential obstruction of pedestrian or vehicular access.
- Any obstruction to the safe passage of pedestrians.
- The safe access and egress of customers and staff from the site and immediate vicinity.
- The operator must not park or site their vehicle within 400 metres of any school entrance between the hours of 8.30-9.30am, 12-1.30pm and 3-4pm, unless they are compliant with the enhanced conditions under section 16 of this policy, in which case they may park or site their vehicle up to 200 metres or further from any school entrance.
- The operator must not trade from a point within 200 metre of an existing trader of a similar nature (excluding Walsall Town Centre & Special Events).

General Criteria

- The licence or consent holder will at no time have the exclusive right to trade from the street or any part of it.
- Street trading can take place in the area outlined in the licence or consent and on days and hours detailed in it.
- The licence or consent holder may only trade in goods that are outlined on their licence or consent.

- The licence or consent summary must be displayed on the stall at all times whilst trading.
- All street trading units will be equipped with safe and adequate lighting for the operation during the hours of darkness.
- No stalls are permitted to be left in situ overnight; the stall must be removed at the end of each trading day.

8. Process

Who can apply?

To apply for Licence or consent the applicant must be:-

- An individual, registered company or partnership.
- 17 years of age or over.
- Legally entitled work in the UK.

Making an application

All applications must be made on the council's prescribed application form. The application must be completed in full with all the required information before it will be considered. Applicants can download the application by visiting the councils website www.walsall.gov.uk, or telephone 01922 653050 to request a hard copy.

All applications would be subject to a 28 day consultation period with responsible authorities (Responsible authorities listed under section 9) and the public. Any applications for Walsall Town Centre will be consulted with local businesses and existing street traders. Please note consultation period may not always start the day after the licensing authority is in receipt of your application.

Applications submitted to the licensing authority must be accompanied with the following:

- Application fee (please see fees and charges)
- Basic Disclosure certificate from the disclosure and barring services for you and any assistants that will be working under the licence or consent (Must be within 3 months of issue date)
- Clear & Legible plan of Site (if Static application) on a scale 1:1250
- An additional map is required to scale, clearly identifying the precise trading position and its proximity to other similar retail outlets (shops etc.) or roads nearby.
- Application fee (non refundable), this may vary depending on location
- Minimum 3 colour photographs of stall that will be used
- Valid MOT certificate for the required vehicle (where applicable)
- Valid motor vehicle insurance for the required vehicle (where applicable)
- Valid Gas Certificate (any gas works carried out on the stall)
- Valid safety certificate for any electrical works carried out
- Personal Appliance Testing (PAT) certificate
- Proof of food registration (where applicable)
- Evidence of any relevant food hygiene training (where applicable)
- 2 Passport sized photographs of the applicant(s). One of the photographs of each applicant must be endorsed with a statement verifying the likeness of the photograph to the applicant by any persons listed on the UK passport recognised professions list

<https://www.gov.uk/countersigning-passport-applications/accepted-occupations-for-countersignatories>.

- 2 Passport sized photographs of any assistant(s) One of the photograph of each assistant must be endorsed with a statement verifying the likeness of the photograph to the applicant by any persons listed on the UK passport recognised professions list
<https://www.gov.uk/countersigning-passport-applications/accepted-occupations-for-countersignatories>.
- Proof of right to work in the UK for the applicant and any assistant working under the licence or consent.
- Additional worker forms (if relevant)
- Written permission to trade from site (If Private Land)
- Written permission to trade from parks and open spaces

Public liability insurance must be maintained throughout the period of the licence or consent. The licence or consent may be revoked should the insurance be cancelled or breached or its sum altered as to provide less than the minimum cover.

Employer's liability insurance (minimum £5 million) where relevant will be required.

A copy of the public and employers liability insurance schedule will need to be provided at the time of grant of the licence or consent.

If the insurance is due for renewal during the period covered by the licence or consent, it is the responsibility of the holder to provide the council with evidence that public liability insurance is continuous for the period of the licence or consent.

At the end of the consultation process, if there have been no representations to the application from any responsible authorities or interested persons the application will be granted for the period applied for. Applicants will then be required to pay Walsall Council the Licence or Consent fee at the time of grant.

If there are representations received from any responsible authorities or interested person(s) these will be considered by officers with delegated powers. Should the officers deem the representations valid and the application unsuccessful, a notice will be served on the applicant outlining the decision and the reasons for it. Should the applicant be aggrieved by this decision they have 7 days from receipt of the notice to make a written request for the licensing authority to consider their representations against the decision.

All applications will be considered on their individual merits taking into account all relevant matters. Licence or Consents will not typically be granted where:

- Enforcement action is pending or has previously been undertaken against the applicant.
- The holder is currently in arrears with any street trading related charges.
- The location is unsuitable
- The stall will be in proximity of a shop or other street traders selling similar goods (excluding Walsall Town Centre and Special Events).
- The activities are likely to cause a nuisance or annoyance to neighbouring properties.
- The applicant is unsuitable.
- An applicant has failed to appropriately use previous Licence or Consents.
- The stall is unsuitable.
- The granting of the licence or consent may cause or contribute to crime and disorder.

All street trading applications will be considered against the objectives adopted by Walsall Council:

- Public Safety
- Prevention of crime and disorder
- Prevention of public nuisance
- Visual Amenity
- Needs of the area
- Protecting and promoting the public's health

This list is not exhaustive.

Once the application is complete and has been accepted, the council will either:

- Grant the licence or consent as applied for.
- Grant the licence or consent with conditions or a variation to the application.
- Refuse the licence or consent.

The council will accept no liability for the street trading activities undertaken by the licence or consent holder(s).

9. Responsible Authorities

Before a decision can be made on whether a street trading licence/consent can be granted, all applications (including Temporary Street Trading) will be required to go through a 28 day consultation period. The licensing authority will consult with appropriate organisations and agencies. In particular, the following organisations or agencies may be consulted:

- West Midlands Police
- West Midlands Fire Authority
- Highway Authority
- Walsall Council's Environmental Health Team
- Walsall Council's Trading Standards Team
- Walsall Council's Community Protection Team
- Walsall Council's Traffic Management Team
- Walsall Council's Locality and Partnerships Team
- Walsall Council's Public Health Team
- Walsall Council's Markets Office
- Walsall Council's Bereavement Services
- Walsall Council's Equalities Team

This list is not exhaustive.

Responsible authorities have specialist knowledge and skills and are able to consider the application under the licensing objectives for street trading.

10. Temporary Street Trading

This type of licence or consent is for short periods of time mainly used for special occasions (eg Mothers Day/Valentines Day/Christmas Period). A temporary Licence may be issued for a single day or for a maximum period of 6 weeks (including consecutive weeks). Temporary licence or consent will be limited to 5 applications for any individual throughout the calendar year. Any individual must not exceed maximum of 5 street trading applications per calendar year which must not exceed 6 weeks in total. Any associate or spouse submitting the application will be considered as the applicant submitting the application.

Temporary licences or consents will go through a 28 day consultation period, and the licensing authority will determine who to consult with based on the application.

Each application will be determined on its own merits. Additional conditions, as deemed necessary, may be imposed on any permission granted.

The decision to grant a temporary licence or consent shall be determined by an authorised officer under delegated powers. However, if the officer is unable to make a decision due to exceptional or other circumstances the application may be determined by a Licensing Sub-Committee.

11. Variations

During the period of the licence or consent, should applicants wish to add, or change any terms of their licence or consent, for example time, commodities, trailer or vehicle, applicant's can make this request by submitting an application to vary their licence or consent. The variation application will carry an associated application fee.

The application will go through a 15 working day consultation period, where the licensing authority will consult with the appropriate responsible authorities who they see fit depending on the nature of the application. Walsall Town centre variation applications will be consulted with businesses within close proximity of the area of the licence.

Street Trading licences or consents are not transferable. A variation application cannot be used to change the location of the existing site; this would require a new application.

A variation application can be used to inform the licensing authority of a change of name, address, and contact details for a licence or consent holder. Holders of a licence or consent will be required to pay an administration fee in order to make these minor changes.

12. Conditions for Licence or Consent Holders

General

Each application will be determined on its own merit, however each licence or consent granted will be subject to the standard conditions and any other conditions the licensing authority deems necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives (as detailed in section 3).

The licensing authority will have powers to impose such conditions that have been agreed through mediation with responsible authorities or interested persons.

13. Refusing applications and renewals

Licence

The council may refuse an application for a street trading licence on any of the following grounds:

- that there is not enough space in the street for the applicant to engage in the trading in which he desires to engage without causing undue interference or inconvenience to persons using the street;
- that there are already enough traders trading in the street from shops or otherwise in the goods in which the applicant desires to trade;
- that the applicant desires to trade on fewer days than the minimum number specified in a resolution
- that the applicant is unsuitable to hold the licence by reason of having been convicted of an offence or for any other reason;
- that the applicant has at any time been granted a street trading licence by the council and has persistently refused or neglected to pay fees due to them for it or charges due to them for services rendered by them to him in his capacity as licence-holder;

- that the applicant has without reasonable excuse failed to avail himself to a reasonable extent of a previous street trading licence.

If the council consider that grounds for refusal exist (as listed above), they may grant the applicant a licence which permits him—

- (a) to trade on fewer days or during a shorter period in each day than specified in the application; or
- (b) to trade only in one or more of the descriptions of goods specified in the application.

If—

- (a) a person is licensed or otherwise authorised to trade in a street under the provisions of any local Act; and
- (b) the street becomes a licence street; and
- (c) he was trading from a fixed position in the street immediately before it became a licence street; and
- (d) he applied for a street trading licence to trade in the street, his application shall not be refused on any of the grounds mentioned in sub-paragraph (6)(a) to (c) above.

Where—

- (a) a council decide—
 - (i) to vary the principal terms of a licence; or
 - (ii) to revoke a licence; and
- (b) a right of appeal is available to the licence-holder under this paragraph,

the variation or revocation shall not take effect until the time for bringing an appeal has expired or, where an appeal is duly brought, until the determination or abandonment of the appeal.

The council may refuse to grant a street trading licence. Where a licence is refused the council will advise the applicant in writing and notify them of the reason for refusal. The applicant(s) may appeal against the decision for a refusal to Walsall Council's Licensing & Safety Committee. Any appeals against the decision of the licensing authority must be lodged in writing to the licensing authority within 21 days of receiving the decision letter.

The appeal letter should state the reasons why they feel the decision must be re-evaluated by committee.

Any representations by the applicant must be made in writing to the licensing authority at least 15 working days before the date of the L & S committee.

Consent

The council may refuse to grant consent. Where consent is refused the council will advise the applicant in writing and notify them of the reason for the refusal. There is no right of appeal against the decision to refuse a consent. The Head of Regulatory Services, may, however, allow an appeal to the Licensing & Safety Committee if it is felt appropriate. Details on how to appeal will be given to applicants when a decision to refuse the consent has been made.

Renewals

Applications to renew an existing street trading licence or consent must be made at least 28 days prior to the expiry of the existing permission.

The act does not provide an applicant with any direct right of appeal against a decision to refuse the grant or renewal of a street trading consent, the revocation of a street trading consent, or against any restrictions or conditions imposed on a street trading consent.

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14. Letting of sites

Sub-letting sites

Licence or consent holders are not permitted to sub-let the licence or consent they hold under any circumstances.

The applicant granted with the licence or consent will be solely responsible for their street trading permission. Should the licensing authority be made aware of any letting, the licensing authority will take action which may lead to revocation of the licence or consent.

Licences and consents are not transferrable.

Re-allocating sites

Street traders must make full use of their licence or consent. Where the licensing authority has evidence that a permitted static site is not being used in accordance with the terms of the authorisation, the licensing authority may revoke the licence or consent.

Multiple street trading consents may be granted to different applicants for the same site provided specific trading days/ periods are applied for.

15. Fees and charges

Walsall Council set fees and charges for street trading. Fees and charges are reviewed as and when necessary.

The council may charge such fees as they consider reasonable for the grant or renewal of a street trading licence or a street trading consent.

A non refundable application fee is applicable for both licence and consent applications.

The council may determine different fees for different types of licence or consent and, in particular, but without prejudice to the generality of this sub-paragraph, may determine fees differing according—

- (a) To the duration of the licence or consent;
- (b) To the street in which it authorises trading; and
- (c) To the descriptions of articles in which the holder is authorised to trade.

Where a licence is surrendered, revoked or ceases to be a licensed street, the council may remit or refund, as they consider appropriate, the whole or part of any licence fee paid for a grant or renewal of the licence or charges for ancillary services, such as street cleaning etc.

Where a consent is surrendered or revoked, the council may remit or refund, as they consider appropriate, the whole or part of any fee paid for a grant or renewal of the consent.

Please visit www.walsall.gov.uk/street_trading to find out what the current fees and charges are for street trading.

Please note that cash payments cannot be accepted.

16. Food stalls

All food businesses must be appropriately registered with their local authority. All other traders that sell or provide food must have a national food hygiene rating of a 4 or 5. Where a rating drops below a 4 whilst a licence or consent is in place, the trading authorisation may be revoked. Applicants and licence or consent holders should notify the licensing authority of any changes to their national food hygiene rating.

All food businesses must demonstrate a commitment to healthier catering principles, equivalent to the Bronze HealthSwitch award criteria or similar.

Food businesses with a strong commitment to healthier catering principles, equivalent to a Silver HealthSwitch award or similar, may park or site their vehicle up to 200 metres from a school entrance. Businesses that have not demonstrated this level of commitment may park or site their vehicle up to 400 metres from a school entrance.

17. Removal of waste

Traders shall ensure that they comply with the law in relation to the disposal of waste. All businesses must have in place formal arrangements for the collection of waste created by their activities. It is an offence to dispose of trade waste in domestic refuse bins.

Special event organisers must provide sufficient waste disposal facilities.

Licence or consent holders must ensure that the trading location/site is always left clean and any refuse from the articles or food sold must be cleared at the end of each day or period of trading from the location.

Traders who wish to demonstrate a strong commitment to reducing litter can consider signing up to Walsall Council's litter charter.

18. Revocation.

Licences

The Council may, in accordance with Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, Schedule 4, section 5 revoke a licence. The grounds for revocation include insufficient street space, suitability of applicant, non-payment of licence/service fees or inadequate use of the licence. Should the council decide, they may vary the licence instead of revoking, by either reducing the permitted number of trading days or by restricting the description of goods to be sold.

If at any time the Council resolves to change a designated licence street to a prohibited street, any licence issued for trading in that street shall cease to be valid so far as it relates to the prohibited street.

A licence-holder may at any time surrender their licence to the council and it shall then cease to be valid.

Consent

A Street trading consent may be revoked at any time. There is no right of appeal against the decision of the Licensing Sub-committee to revoke a consent. Where consent is revoked the

council will advise the applicant verbally and confirm the reasons for this in writing within 10 working days.

If at any time the licensing authority becomes aware of an applicant or licence/consent holder's involvement in any criminal activity, prosecutions, or cautions (including any director, company secretary), delegated officers from the local authority will have powers to revoke the authorisation.

The Licence or consent is not a lease or a tenancy and gives no interest or rights in land to the Operator.

The right to use a pitch and the allocation or reallocation of the pitch remains the right of the Council.

19. Special Events

A special event is an event with multiple street trading stalls. Special events can make a significant contribution to the local economy and can attract many visitors and tourists into the borough. Examples include Christmas Fayre, Religious Festivals, Carnivals, Community Events, informal markets etc

A special event can last a maximum of 7 consecutive days. A special event can be applied for one particular day of the week for the whole year.

The Special Event application should be made by the event organiser who will be required to comply with the requirements of a suitable applicant as mentioned in section 7 (suitability of applicant).

Applications must consist of a completed application form including the details of stall holders and the goods to be traded in. Organisers will be required to submit additional worker forms for each stall. A full risk assessment and an Event Management Plan (EMP), see below -

The EMP must include:

- Health and safety risk assessments for the event.
- Traffic management details, including evidence that a road closure has been obtained or has been applied for (if appropriate).
- Organiser insurance details compliant with this Policy.
- Fire safety provision.
- Details of medical, ambulance and first-aid management.
- Major incident planning (emergency planning).
- Structures, barriers, electrical installation and lighting (where appropriate).
- Details of sanitary facilities.
- Details of waste management, e.g. whether additional street cleansing is required.
- Consideration of the impact of noise and vibration.
- Protection of children and vulnerable adults at the event
- A site plan identifying the location of each individual stall
- A plan detailing the layout of the stall

Organisers will be required to submit an application at least 4 months prior to the proposed event and will be required to attend Walsall Council's Safety Advisory Group (SAG) to discuss plans for the event with responsible authorities. The applicant must adhere to the advice given by SAG.

Applications will be subject to a 28 day consultation period however, where necessary this period may be extended.

An application fee is payable with all applications however the Licensing Authority reserves the right to waive licence or consent fees for special events, provided the event is charitable without the intention of personal profit. Any trader attending an event for commercial gain (e.g. hot/cold food or refreshment traders) will be subject to a street trading fee.

20. Licensing Act 2003

It should be noted that should a street trader wish to sell alcohol or provide late night refreshment, additional authorisation will be needed under the terms of the Licensing Act 2003.

Late night refreshment is the supply of hot food or drink between the hours of 23:00 and 05:00 on any day of the week.

Licensing Officers will be able to provide further information on the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003.

21. Child Exploitation and Trafficking of Children and Young People

Walsall Council's licensing section is helping to tackle child sexual exploitation and trafficking by working together with key partners particularly West Midlands Police and the council's children services.

Through agencies working together and sharing information, we aim to identify and prevent sexual exploitation, disrupt the activities of perpetrators, protect children and young people and prosecute perpetrators of sexual exploitation. Sharing relevant information with West Midlands Police and Children services helps to protect young people from harm. Safeguarding children and young people is everyone's business and everyone's responsibility.

Child sexual exploitation is a crime that can affect any child, anytime, anywhere – regardless of their social or ethnic background. Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator (HM Government, February 2017).

Sexual exploitation of children and young people involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive something, e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money, etc. as a result of them performing, and/or another or others performing on them, sexual activities. Violence, coercion and intimidation are commonly involved in such exploitative relationships.

Child sexual exploitation involves perpetrators grooming youngsters and using their powers to sexually abuse them. Sexual exploitation of children and young people can take many forms, whether it occurs through a seemingly 'consensual' relationship with an older boyfriend, or a young person having sex in return for attention, gifts, alcohol or cigarettes etc.

How can street traders help tackle child sexual exploitation

Street traders are in a good position to help identify victims of sexual exploitation because through the trading they undertake they regularly come into contact with children and young people. This means they are in an ideal position to help protect young people.

In particular, street traders should consider the following questions when trading:

- Does your customer appear to be under 18 years old?
- Are they with a much older person and appear to be in a relationship?
- Do you think that they are under the influence of alcohol or drugs?
- Are you aware of any conversations that suggest children or young people are being or have been taken to a hotel, party or secluded location? If so, ask yourself why?
- Are you aware of children/young people being taken regularly to the same localities? If so, ask yourself why?

If the answers to any of the questions above gives you even the slightest cause for concern, these concerns should be reported in accordance with the relevant provisions relating to the 'Safety of children and adults with care and support needs or other vulnerable persons' detailed below.

If you have reason to suspect that a child is being abused or at risk of abuse it is your responsibility to report your concerns to and share information with West Midlands Police (Tel: 101) and Children's Social Care (Tel: 0300 555 2866).

22. Definitions

Streets

any road, footway, beach or other area to which the public have access without payment; and a service area as defined in section 329 of the M1Highways Act 1980

Roundsman

A roundsman is a person who followed the round of his/her customers to take orders and deliver the pre-ordered goods of these customers.

News vendor

News vendor is a reference to trading where:

- a) The only articles sold or exposed or offered for sale are newspapers or periodicals; and
- b) They are sold or exposed or offered for sale without a stall or receptacle for them or with a stall or receptacle for them which does not:
 - exceed one metre in length or width or two metres in height;
 - occupy a ground area exceeding 0.25 square metres; or
 - stand on the carriageway of a street.

Pedlar

A pedlar is “any hawker, pedlar, petty chapman, tinker, caster of metals, mender of chairs, or other person who, without any horse, or other beast of bearing or drawing burden, travels and trades on foot and goes from town to town or to other men’s houses, carrying or selling or exposing for sale any goods, wares, merchandise immediately to be delivered , or selling or offering his skill in handicraft (Section 3 Pedlars Act 1871).

Operator

Operator means the holder of a street trading licence or consent and all his employees or agents.

Static

Trading from a fixed site/location

Mobile

Permission to trade on consent streets via use of a contained motor vehicle.

Contained Vehicle

Single unit motor vehicle such as an ice cream van.

Interested Persons

Any other consulted party including local businesses and other street traders.

Associate

- the spouse or civil partner of that person;
- a child, parent, grandchild, grandparent, brother or sister of that person;
- an agent or employee of that person; or
- the spouse or civil partner of a person listed in either of the two preceding bullet

Points

A person living with another person as their husband or wife, is treated for these purposes as their spouse. ‘Civil partner’ has its meaning in the Civil Partnership Act 2004.

23. Equality and Diversity

Through policies and service delivery, the council's main aims for ensuring equality and diversity are to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination
- Promote equality of opportunity
- Promote good relations between diverse communities.

A link to the council's Equalities and Diversities Policy can be found here:

https://go.walsall.gov.uk/equality_and_diversity-2

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