

**WALSALL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES TO**

**LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2005**

**STREET COLLECTION -  
ANIMAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to bring to the Committee's attention a request by the Animal Protection Agency for a street collection permit in Walsall Town Centre on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2005 and Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2005.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to consider the organisation's request for a street collection permit on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2005 and Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2005 in Walsall Town Centre.

3.0 Financial Implications

- 3.1 None. There is no charge for a street collection permit.

4.0 Policy Implications

- 4.1 None.

5.0 Equal Opportunities Implications

- 5.1 None.

6.0 Environmental Impact

- 6.1 None.

## 7.0 Legal Implications

7.1 There are no grounds for refusal specified in the Act.

7.2 At present, there is no statutory right of appeal against refusal of a street collection permit and the only way a Licensing Authority's act could be challenged would be by application to the High Court for a review of the decision.

## 8.0 Wards Affected

8.1 Walsall Town Centre is within the St. Matthews Ward.

## 9.0 Consultees

9.1 There is no legal requirement to consult on street collection applications.

## 10.0 Background

10.1 Authority to issue street collections has been delegated to the Head of Democratic Services in instances where the collection would be considered to be non-controversial. Any other applications are submitted to Committee for determination.

10.2 The Animal Protection Agency is a non-profit making organisation which campaigns against the trade in wild animals for pets. The organisation was launched in August, 2004, it is not a registered Charity.

## 11.0 The Application

11.1 The Animal Protection Agency has submitted details of a brief history of the organisation in support of their application. A copy of the details are attached at Appendix A.

11.2 The dates and area requested for the collections are:-

Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2005 and Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2005  
Walsall Town Centre

## 12.0 Observations

12.1 There are no other authorised collections in Walsall Town Centre on either Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2005 or Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2005.

12.2 The Local Authority has the power to issue permits for organisations to undertake collections for the benefit of charitable purposes. "Charitable purpose" is defined in the Act to mean "any charitable, benevolent or philanthropic purposes, whether or not the purpose is charitable, within the meaning of any rule of law."

12.3 In respect of this application, the Committee is requested to consider whether it wishes to grant a permit for the dates and area requested at Paragraph 11.2.

R.F. WILLIAMS,  
Head of Democratic Services.

Background papers All published

Contact Officer Mr. F. Powell (Ext. 2015)

# APPENDIX A



# APA

Animal Protection Agency

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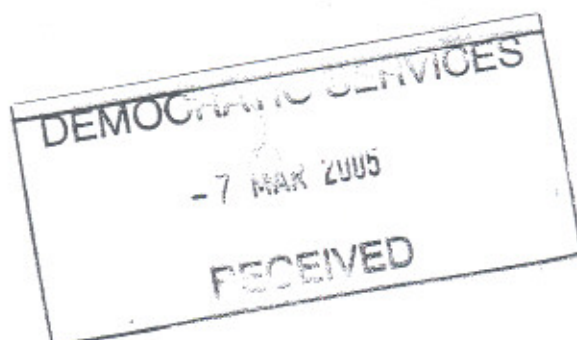
www.apa.org.uk

Mr F Powell  
Constitutional Services Officer  
Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council  
The Civic Centre  
Darwall Street  
Walsall  
WS1 1TP

March 4, 2005

Dear Mr Powell

Street Collection



Further to our conversation of 1 March 2005 when you advised me that the matter of permission for our street collection would be decided at a Committee meeting, I write to set out in more detail the aims of the Animal Protection Agency (APA) as well as our methods of campaigning.

APA is a non-profit making organisation that campaigns against the trade in wild animals for pets. We are a new organisation - launched in August 2004 - and this is why your Authority has not had previous dealings with us. We do not consider ourselves to be an 'animal rights' group.

We work alongside an integrated team of scientific, veterinary and legal advisors and carry out undercover investigations of illegal animal trading. We harness the power of the media to publicise the cruelty destructiveness and corruption associated with the wildlife trade. We produce education and campaign literature and rely on a national network of volunteers to help us distribute information. We also lobby Parliament to seek improved changes in the law to protect the welfare of exotic pets.

Our patrons include BBC World Affairs Editor, John Simpson and actor, Brian Blessed.

I hope that this information is helpful and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Elaine Toland MRS  
Director