



**LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
7TH DECEMBER, 2005**

REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

**STREET COLLECTIONS 2006
THE COUNTY AIR AMBULANCE**

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT:

The purpose of the report is to bring to the Committee's attention a request by the County Air Ambulance to hold additional street collections in The Old Square Shopping Centre, Walsall.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION:

The Committee is asked to consider the organisation's request for additional street collection permit dates. (Please see paragraph 11.3)

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

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

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

None.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

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

- 5.2 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.

6.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS:

None.

7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

None.

8.0 WARDS AFFECTED:

The Old Square Shopping Centre is within the St. Matthews Ward.

9.0 CONSULTEEs:

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 Council has a policy of only two street collection dates per organisation per calendar year. A variation of this policy must be submitted to the Committee for determination.

11.0 THE APPLICATION:

- 11.1 County Air Ambulance have already been allocated two street collection permits in Walsall Town Centre on Saturday, 12th August, 2006 and Saturday, 5th September, 2006. These dates have been allocated to the County Air Ambulance in accordance with the Council's policy on street collections.

- 11.2 The County Air Ambulance Service has also been granted permission to carry out nine further street collections in The Saddlers Shopping Centre only as follows:-

Thursday, 23rd March, 2006
Friday, 24th March, 2006
Saturday, 25th March, 2006

Thursday, 22nd June, 2006
Friday, 23rd June, 2006
Saturday, 24th June, 2006

Thursday, 26th October, 2006
Friday, 27th October, 2006
Saturday, 28th October, 2006

- 11.3 The organisation has now requested permission to undertake six additional collections in The Old Square Shopping Centre as follows:-

Friday, 17th February, 2006
Saturday, 18th February, 2006
Friday, 26th May, 2006
Saturday, 27th May, 2006
Friday, 22nd December, 2006
Saturday, 23rd December, 2006

- 11.4 A letter of authorisation from the Centre Management at The Old Square Shopping Centre has been received in respect of the additional dates requested. A copy of the application is attached as an Appendix.

12.0 **OBSERVATIONS:**

- 12.1 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."
- 12.2 In respect of this application, the Committee is requested to consider whether to vary the policy and, if so, whether to grant a permit for some or all of the additional dates requested at 11.3.

13.0 **CONTACT OFFICER:**

Steve Brooke - Ext. 2014

14.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

Application form for a street collection permit submitted by County Air Ambulance.

R.F. WILLIAMS,
Head of Democratic Services