



LEETON
SHIRE COUNCIL

DRAFT (REVISED)
BUSKING POLICY

AUGUST 2026

DOCUMENT CONTROL

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Regulatory Services Co-ordinator Compliance Officer				
REVIEWED BY:	Manager, Planning Building & Health / Senior Management Team				
LINK TO CSP/DELIVERY PROGRAM/OPERATIONAL PLAN:	9.1.2 Continuously review and update Council policies and plans to appropriately support Council's operations				
DATE ADOPTED:	TBC				
ADOPTED BY:	Council				
RESOLUTION NO: (IF RELEVANT):	TBC				
FOR PUBLICATION:	☐ INTRANET ☐ COUNCIL WEBSITE X BOTH				
REVIEW DUE DATE:	August 2030				
REVISION NUMBER:	4				
PREVIOUS VERSIONS:	DATE	DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENTS	AUTHOR/EDITOR	REVIEW/SIGN OFF	MINUTE NO (IF RELEVANT)
1	4/11/2009			Council	Res No 09/363
2	26/6/2013			Council	Res No 13/135
3	22/2/2017			Council	Res No 17/108
4	25/5/2026	Minor updates to the policy were made.	Manager Building	Council	TBC

REVIEW OF THIS POLICY

This document will be reviewed every 4 years or as required in the event of legislative changes or operational requirements.

Any major amendments to the document must be made by way of a Council Resolution. Minor amendments such as corrections to spelling, changes to wording for improved clarity, formatting and updates to the Appendixes may be made with the approval of the General Manager.

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1. Purpose

- This policy is to encourage Buskers to perform and contribute to the cultural life of the Shire of Leeton.
- To manage busking within the Shire of Leeton in a way that does not cause detriment to the quality of the public environment and adjacent uses and activities.

2. Scope

This policy applies to any person or group performing in a public space in the Shire of Leeton.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

- Manager Planning Building & Health
- ~~Regulatory Services Co-ordinator~~ Compliance Officer

4. Definitions

- **Approved area:** An area of public land designated by the Shire of Leeton as suitable for busking.
- **Authorised officer:** Authorised Officer of Shire of Leeton.
- **Busker:** A person performing an act/performance to be seen by the general public. Busker accept volunteered monetary appreciations.
- **Busking Fee:** ~~An annual fee applies for a Busking Permit as specified in Councils Fees and Charges, adopted with the annual Management Plan and will apply where more than three (3) occasions are requested in any twelve (12) months.~~ **First day is free. Fees apply to any day thereafter.**
- **Dangerous materials and implements:** Materials and implements that pose a risk or uncertain outcomes for people. This includes materials that give off any kind of heat or toxicity.
- **Relevant Authority:** Shire of Leeton
- **Soliciting Funds:** The act of asking, begging, seeking or requesting money or goods from members of the public.
- **Structures:** Any items additional to musical equipment (e.g. A-Frames) are not permitted. Utensils for collecting money (e.g. hat or musical instrument case) are exempt.

5. Supporting Documents

Application form for Busking Permit Application – refer page 7

6. Legislation

Local Government Act 1993

7. Policy Procedure

- a. Buskers must obtain a busking permit from the Council before conducting any performances.
- b. A busker must retain the authorised permit on their person at all times while performing and present the permit upon request of an Authorised Officer.
- c. Busking Permits are not transferable or refundable.
- d. Buskers must carry out any directions given by the NSW Police or an Authorised Officer.
- e. All performances must be within acceptable volume levels, so as not to inconvenience the public or the operation of businesses in the area. If performance can be clearly heard from the other side of a main street or within a habitable room, it is deemed to be too loud.
- f. An Authorised Officer may at any time instruct a Busker to immediately terminate their performance if the Officer deems it to be too loud, offensive, dangerous or harmful to private or public property or the busker is without a permit.
- g. Buskers and their audience must be located away from the building line so as to not obstruct pedestrian movement.
- h. Buskers may not perform near the entry to retail, business and/or residences during trading hours without the approval of affected shop, tenant or property owners.
- i. Buskers must ensure that the area within which they are performing (including the area used by any audience) does not pose a threat to public safety.
- j. Buskers and or their audience must not damage any public asset or private property.
- k. Buskers must ensure that the approved area is left in a clean and trafficable state.
- l. Buskers must not use dangerous materials and implements as part of their performance.
- m. Buskers must not perform longer than two hours in any one approved area unless specifically approved.

- n. Buskers must not sell or offer to sell any product. An exception may be made, by prior approval, for the sale of product (CD's etc) by the Busker.
- o. By signing the *Application for Temporary Busking Permit* the applicant agrees to comply with the conditions of this policy.
- p. At any time Council may cancel a permit if the permit holder fails to comply with any of the provisions contained in this policy.
- q. A permit may be subject to conditions imposed at Council's discretion and the conditions contained in the permit must be complied with at all times.
- r. It is not a mandatory condition of this policy that Buskers hold and maintain a **public liability insurance policy**, however in certain circumstances the absence of appropriate insurance coverage may leave a Busker open to personal liability in the event that a negligent act leads to a third party injury or loss. Therefore it is recommended that each Busker obtains valid Public Liability coverage for busking in the Leeton Shire Council Local Government Area for no less than \$20M.

Council's public liability insurance policy does NOT cover a Buskers liability exposure.

8. APPENDIX – BUSKING PERMIT FORM



LEETON
SHIRE COUNCIL

Office Hours 8.30am – 5.00pm
23-25 Chelmsford Place, Leeton 2705
council@leeton.nsw.gov.au
General Enquiries: Phone 02 69530911

BUSKING PERMIT APPLICATION

About this form

You may use this form to apply for approval to busk within Leeton Shire Council Area under s68 of the Local Government Act 1993.

- If you are **under 16 years of age** your parent or guardian must complete and sign Part 3 of form and be present when you apply for your permit.
- All buskers must read the Leeton Shire Council Busking Policy before they submit this form.
- Any approval will be issued subject to conditions.

How to complete this form

1. Ensure that all fields have been filled out correctly.
2. Forms must be submitted in person.

Office Use Only (Please ✓)

ID Sighted: ☐

Permit issued:

Low Impact ☐

High Impact ☐

Extended Duration ☐

Date:

PART 1 – APPLICANT DETAILS

Title	Given Names	Family Name
Postal Address		
Email Address		
Phone Number	Mobile Number	

PART 2 – PERFORMANCE DETAILS

NOTE: Leeton Shire Council reserves the right to amend the permit type on application (Tick ✓ all that apply)

Tick ✓	Low Impact	Tick ✓	High Impact	Tick ✓	Extended Duration
	Requires less than 2m ² space		Requires more than 2m ² space		Non-amplified non-musical acts ONLY
	Vocal		Vocals – amplified		Requires more than 2 hrs to complete
	Instrumental (specify instrument)		Brass instruments		Pavement Art
	Juggling (non-dangerous implements)		Bagpipes/Drumming		Mime/statue
	Group – 4 or less performers		Group – 5 or more performers		Other (specify) #
	Other (specify) #		Other (specify) #		
# Provide a description of the performance type, instruments etc					

PART 3 – PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT DETAILS (IF APPLICANT IS UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE)

A Parent/Guardian must be present when application is made.

I (please print name)

of (please print address)

Hereby consent to my child (Please print name of child)
performing as a busker.

I understand that:

1. Leeton Shire Council **provides no supervision of buskers under the age of 16 years** and recommends an adult accompany young buskers at all times.
2. Buskers under the age of 16 are subject to Leeton Shire Council's Busking Policy and need to comply with the Policy at all times.

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

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PART 4 – PROOF OF IDENTITY

You must provide Council with proof of your identity, and proof of identity of your parent/guardian if you are under 16 years. Please tick the item/s below which you will provide as proof of identity.

	You (Please ✓)	Your Parent/Guardian (Please ✓)
Drivers Licence	☐	☐
Student ID	☐	☐
Other type of ID#	☐	☐

ID containing a signature, a recent photograph and date of birth will be accepted, at the discretion of the receiving officer.

PART 5 – APPLICANT DECLARATION

- I have read and understand my obligations under Leeton Shire Council's Busking Policy.
- I agree to abide by any process for breach of permit conditions, suspension or cancellation of my permit which may be imposed and/or amended by Council at any time.
- I understand that if the information is incomplete, the application may be delayed or rejected or more information may be requested.

I agree to comply with the following conditions of approval:

- I will make my Permit available for inspection by any Authorised Officer and follow any direction issued by those personnel (Authorised Officer includes any Leeton Shire Council employee).
- I will not transfer my Permit to any other person.
- I agree to only busk within the approved time restrictions.
- I will be presented at all times of a neat and tidy appearance.
- I will not create a threat to public safety, whether real or perceived.
- Handing out of food is prohibited.
- I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to read and abide by Leeton Shire Council's Busking Policy.

I declare that all the information in the application is to the best of my knowledge, true and correct.

Applicant Name

Applicant Signature

Dated