


Community and Governance Committee Meeting	 <p>Market Drayton Town Council</p>
Agenda Item: 7.CG Street Trading Policy	
Date: 7 April 2022	
Appendix : CG122	

BACKGROUND

On 1 April 2009 Shropshire Council took on the street trading provisions of schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.

The Street Trading Policy 2018-23 is in place to ensure that Shropshire Council can properly regulate those who trade in the street and not from within a business premises.

A copy of the policy can be found at <https://shropshire.gov.uk/media/9056/street-trading-policy-2018-2023.pdf> a copy is also saved in the Councillor folder.

POLICY REVIEW

Shropshire Council are currently reviewing the Street Trading Policy 2018 to 2023 with a revised document due to come into effect from 1 April 2023.

Shropshire Council are looking to establish whether it is appropriate to consider a revision of parts of the Policy to more effectively support market town events, particularly where such events are led by town councils, and also to continue to ensure risks are properly managed with adequate safeguarding and protection of the public remaining in place. Shropshire Council also want to explore the possibility of the town councils adopting the street trading function. The Policy already makes it clear that we actively encourage town councils to do this in order to facilitate more local decision making and that Shropshire Council will support and facilitate the delegation process to ensure a smooth transition.

This is with the aim of achieving a solution that satisfies the following objectives:

1. that street trading activities in Shropshire are lawful;
2. the public are safeguarded and protected;
3. the risks for traders, Shropshire Council and town councils are minimised
4. Shropshire Council's Economic Growth Strategy is supported; and
5. the impact of any decisions on the financial position of the respective councils and other relevant parties is properly understood and managed.

This is an informal consultation which will be open from Monday 21 March 2022 to Sunday 17 April 2022. Shropshire Council has asked for Town and Parish Councils to review the current Street Trading Policy and submit any requests for amendments

all submissions will be considered before a final draft is put out for formal consultation.

PROPOSED TIMELINE

A proposed timeline is set out below for the implementation of the revised policy;

- An initial 4 week informal consultation with the Town Councils from Monday 21 March 2022 to Sunday 17 April 2022.
- All responses will be considered and the revised Policy will then be taken before the Strategic Licensing Committee on 22 June 2022 with a proposal to go out to formal consultation for a period of 8 weeks. Additional comments can be submitted during this time.
- All comments received during the formal consultation period will then be reviewed, where required the policy will be amended and the final draft will be considered by the Strategic Licensing Committee on 5th October 2022, for adoption with effect from 1 April 2023.

CURRENT LICENCE FEES

Street Trading Licence	£173 Minimum charge for up to 7 days (the 7 days may be used at any time within a 12 month period commencing from the date the consent is issued, but the dates must be confirmed on application)
Street trading additional days - each additional day or part thereof (the dates must be confirmed on application)	£4
Street trading - annual licence	£494

FOR CONSIDERATION

To consider a response to Shropshire Council on the current Street Trading Policy.

Town Council has previously identified that the charge for the Street Trading Licence can be prohibitive for small traders who wish to trade in the town at ad-hoc markets, which in turn makes it difficult for local organisation to organise markets and events.

Town Council has previously considered taking over the administration of Street Licences for the Town, but this is very complex as Town Council could not administer licences in the areas covered by the Market Charter.

RECOMMENDATION

- The updated policy should make it easier for community markets to be organised.
- The fee for trading 7 days or less should be reduced.
- The introduction of a new Town/Parish Council Market Trading Licence that allows ad-hoc council organised markets to be run without the need for all stallholders to have individual trading licences; similar to markets run under Market Charters.