

**Street Trading and Markets Policy Consultation
Survey Results 25/10/2021**

Between the dates of 13/09/2021 and 25/10/2021 the survey received a total of 9 responses.

8 out of 9 responses were from Businesses/organisations with the 1 remaining an Individual, all living or operating within the district.

Below are the detailed responses for the long answer questions:

Q: Are there any particular street trading offerings that you feel would benefit the local area?

<i>Fresh fruit and veg and also meat/ fish van</i>
<i>In Littlehampton I would like to see stalls limited to these products you cannot get from local businesses. Men's clothing, shoes, crafts, etc. Local businesses pay business rates so should not be affected by stalls that compete with them.</i>
<i>Town centre traders to be allowed to sell in streets on Event days such as carnival & bonfire night.</i>
<i>A Littlehampton Distillery's products</i>
<i>Music really changes the tone of an area and therefore more professional buskers would be of benefit to the local area.</i>
<i>Can people trade from their front gardens?</i>
<i>Those outlined in ADC draft policy are aspirational - promoting healthy choices, locally produced goods, local artists / traders and strong environmental focus are supported by BR BID.</i>
<i>Fruit & Vegetable stalls (including the sale of exotic fruits), flower stall, and health & beauty stall (popular in London), for example. Street Traders could be encouraged to offer a more diverse range of goods that would appeal to a wider audience and could provide new customer experiences. Could also attract more holiday makers if there is a street trade offering that becomes infamous for the variety on offer.</i>

Q: Are there any streets proposed as being prohibited from Street Trading that you disagree with?

<i>No, would agree</i>
<i>Surrey Street in Littlehampton should be prohibited, it is a very busy road</i>
<i>Traders from local shops should be considered applications for the blocked streets.</i>
<i>None</i>
<i>East Street to Avon Road. In the past this road has been used for events and as there is an alternative route to use and traffic can be diverted ,could this not be considered for future events and pop-ups as it is an ideal temporary walkthrough route in to the High Street?</i>
<i>Victoria Drive</i>
<i>Observation: High Street Bognor Regis is listed as a "Prohibited Street" at 3.5 of Draft policy, but included as suitable for special occasions and events in Appendix 1. Suggest that High Street Bognor Regis is suited to special and occasional market activity, or as part of an event subject to a road closure to ensure public safety. Similarly, York Road Bognor Regis could be considered suited for occasional / specialist markets subject to temporary road closure.</i>
<i>No</i>
<i>Where space and traffic movement allow then to have completely prohibited a street from Street Trading could close off any future opportunities. Sometimes, Markets/Street Traders are only in place for a day/weekend so, therefore, wouldn't necessarily prove disruptive or unwelcome in any of the streets listed in the proposal. However, the suitability of Street Trading on certain streets, for example those in a designated conservation area, may need to be considered in relation to the suitability.</i>

Q: Do you believe there should be any other streets prohibited from Street Trading?

All of the answers were "No" or "N/A"

Q: Are there any places you feel would benefit from Street Trading during the day or in the evening?

<i>London Road Bognor Regis</i>
<i>No</i>
<i>Any street in town should be considered for use by town centre traders</i>
<i>No</i>
<i>The open green spaces in both towns, do not seem to be utilised as much as they could be</i>
<i>Bognor</i>
<i>Possibility of evening/food markets Place St Maur & York Road, Bognor Regis (subject to road closure, if York Rd becomes consent street). Possibility of occasional/speciality markets Waterloo Square.</i>
<i>With the regeneration project currently happening on Place St Maur, Street Trading in streets such as York Road, could further enhance the area, alongside the recent cafes and restaurants that have opened. It would be nice to see more Street Trading on summer evenings along the esplanade, by Place St Maur and in Waterloo Square for instance. Would also be nice to see Street Trading at Bognor Regis Railway Station if concrete planters weren't so obstructive.</i>

Q: Are there any other comments you wish to make?

<i>It would be easily for one party to hold the licence for example Bognor BID and not the bid to have one and also a stall holder as this is what is currently happening</i>
<i>With new paving etc going into Littlehampton the council needs to make sure there are no vehicles in the new High Street. Markets should be set up before shop openings, so before 9am, and leave around 4pm. Making sure disabled people and wheelchairs can always go through town. Maybe if Littlehampton decide to continue a weekly market they could be held in car park behind Dave O Jones which seemed to work well earlier this year, I meant that the town centre was left clear</i>

Anti-competative restrictions. Unable to trade at Arundel market because a Chichester Distiller already trades at the market. Why the monopoly ? is the same applied to fruit & veg, hot food vendors, or candlestick makers?

The Littlehampton Traders Partnership wish to add the following observations and suggestions. There should be an excellent image and all stalls/pop ups should be in good order. No vehicles(lorries or vans) should be left on The High Street for more than a hour for set up and/or packing away. No replications of existing businesses or Traders unless they are Pop-ups or quality food stalls. Traders should not buy directly from the public for any reason .

Positive, clear and well written draft policy which recognises the positive benefits markets bring to our own centres. Intention to drive up quality of offering, and prioritising applications that bring complimentary offer, local produce, healthy eating, alternatives to animal products is supported. However, traders offering the types of good that ADC wish to attract may be more abundant, and more inclined to trade in some areas within the District than others. Need to balance expectations of community with regards to market providing "cheaper" offer than bricks and mortar retailers. Will need careful management to balance consents issued to individual traders (up to 7 days per wk) with Operator consents. Will need careful management to ensure needs of local bricks and mortar businesses are considered carefully and balanced with number of consents issued. Danger of business backlash if multiple traders operating under consent are in situ 7 days per week. As a current (operator) consent holder, BR BID is keen to continue operating 1 x midweek and 1 x weekend market under the revised policy, and looks forward to further details of pricing etc, hoping that this will be financially achievable..

Littlehampton Town Council has previously suggested that the Town Market could be better located in the St Martins Car Park (there was a temporary relocation to the car park to provide better social distancing last summer). This was considered to provide a much more attractive venue for the Market for visitors and vendors alike. Reviewing the other areas identified as locations in the Policy as it relates to Littlehampton, we would add the following suggestions / comments:

- Not clear if St Martins Car Park itself is included (St Martins Lane is referenced but not the Car Park) – This should be included and have market added as the purpose*
- Manor House Car Park – This should be included and have market added as the purpose*
- Pier Road – Suggest that Market be proposed as an additional purpose (the area could host and benefit from a craft / themed market)*

This draft policy document has been considered by Members of Bognor Regis Town Council's Planning and Licensing Committee. Whilst discussing the proposals, in addition to the responses given to the previous questions, the following comments were also made: - There are a couple of typos at 2.5 (line 3) where 'good' should be 'goods'. Also at 11.3 where it should read 'bric-a-brac'.

In regards to the term 'healthy food' this needs to be made more specific in the policy. Whilst cheese, or foods of an Indian style, could be regarded as 'healthy', it could also be argued that they are high in fat, for instance. One persons idea of 'healthy food' may differ to another persons. For example, someone on a keto diet will be looking for foods high in fat or protein.

The policy also runs the risk of excluding those with religious dietary requirements. To exclude offerings such as burgers and hot dogs could also push footfall from the Town Centre to outlying retails parks with fast foods outlets aplenty.

Rather than appearing to adopt a 'Nanny State' approach, people should be entitled to make their own food choices. As a compromise, perhaps Traders selling food could be asked to display information such as calorific content, allergens etc, or to use the traffic light labelling system, and thereby allow customers to make informed choices.

The policy seems to suggest that a Trader cannot employ anyone under the age of 17 years old, yet it seems to imply that anyone aged 16 years can hold a licence - if this is so, then would this not be slightly contradictory?

In so far as any approved design and colour scheme there seems to be some ambiguity with the policy stating 'can' be white and blue but the also says 'prefer' white and blue. Would a Street Trader, who does not regularly trade in a particular area, be required to change the colour/design and branding of their usual gazebo/stall? If colour and design is to be uniform throughout the district then would this also be applied to seafront concessions?

It would appear that the delivery of this policy would be delegated to an officer with no obvious process for appeals and/or complaints. This should work both ways and it would be a shame not to include these parameters into the final document.

Arun enjoys a diverse population and this could be reflected in the Street Trader offerings. Whilst new themes should be explored and supported, this should not be at the exclusion of more traditional offerings.

Bognor Regis Town Council strongly support Markets and Street Traders, and the diversity that they can offer to encourage buyers to the Town Centre. Whilst it is recognised that certain measures would need to be in place, it is felt that the policy, in its current form, is a little restrictive and overly prescribed.