

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Registration and Licensing Committee

11 June 2018

Report of the Head of Legal Services – C.Griffiths

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: All

Street Trading Policy - Amendment

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider an amendment to the Street Trading Policy.

Executive Summary

2. This report is to consider amendments to the Street Trading Policy adopted on the 4th December 2017.
3. Amendments are requested in respect of the conditions for traders operating within Neath Town Centre.

Background

4. This authority adopted the legislation in respect of street trading on the 1st July 2001 and classified every street a "consent street". Effectively this means that anyone wishing to sell an article in the street within the Neath Port Talbot CBC area requires a street trading consent.

5. On the 4th December 2017, members determined to adopt a revised Street Trading Policy which became effective on the 1st April 2018.

Officer Report

6. The street trading policy has a list of standard conditions which are attached to street trading consents. One such condition reads " Zone 1 consents in respect of Neath Town Centre will not be operative during the period of the Neath September trading fair".
7. A request has been received from the Neath Town Centre Manager, to amend this condition so that it also includes the Neath Food and Drink Festival and the Neath Christmas Festival.
8. There is one trader that has an existing street trading consent to trade in Neath Town Centre, this is a jacket potato seller located close to NatWest Bank; this trader has held this street trading consent for approx. 15 years and pays an annual fee of £1385.
9. It is proposed that the amended condition would not apply retrospectively, so the existing trader would continue to be able to use the street trading pitch during both the Neath Food and Drink Festival and Christmas Festival.

Equality Impact Assessment

10. Not applicable

Legal Impacts

11. Not applicable

Risk Management

12. Not applicable

Consultation

13. Not applicable.

Recommendation

14. That members approve the amendment to condition 8 of the specific location conditions contained in the Street Trading Policy to the following:
 - Zone 1 consents in respect of Neath Town Centre will not be operative during the period of the Neath September Trading Fair, the Neath Food and Drink Festival and the Neath Christmas Festival"
15. That the existing street trading consent issued for Neath Town Centre be exempt from the new restrictions on trading.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

16. To help support festivals and events which take place in Neath Town Centre without adversely impacting on the existing established street trader.

Implementation of Decision

17. Not applicable

Appendices

18. Appendix 1 - request from the town centre manager.

List of Background Papers

19. Street Trading Policy

Officer Contact

20. Neil Chapple
Licensing Manager
Tel (01639) 763056
Email n.chapple@npt.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Dear Neil Chapple

I would like to apply to have your 'Conditions of Policy' changed in line with the condition relating to Neath Fair regarding Neath Food and Drink Festival and Neath Christmas Festival and possibly any major organised festival in the future. As you are aware we hold a number of Festivals throughout Neath Centre at various times. The purpose being to increase the footfall into the town centre to ensure that the towns remain sustainable and are able to compete with other towns and retail areas. A great deal of time, effort and resources go into these events without which would not able them to go ahead.

A trader who has an annual licence e.g. not applying and paying for their pitch for a festival or event would have a detrimental effect on the festival and as a result the town. It is my concern that we ensure consistency amongst traders during festivals and events who pay per m2 for their pitches as these funds contribute to marketing, stalls, generators, entertainment, cookery demonstrations, radio coverage etc. together with other associated costs and as a result brings in over 50,000 visitors over the weekend.

Please could you consider this change so that we can continue to support our towns with festivals and events to promote town centres.

May I point out that any food and drink trader would be able to apply to trade at the Neath Food and Drink Festival as I know that there has been a concern with the gentleman selling hot potatoes.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards

Jo Hillier-Raikes

NPT Town Centre Manager