



**SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

**Joint meeting of the
Environment and Rural &
Communities Overview and
Scrutiny Committee**

Wednesday, 10 December 2025

ENV 922

Report of Councillor Philip Knowles
Cabinet Member for Corporate
Governance and Licensing

Review of the Street Trading Policy

Report Author

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Purpose of Report

This report proposes updates to the existing Street Trading Policy which includes feedback from Licensing Committee following consideration of the proposed updates.

Recommendations

That the Joint Committee:

- 1. Considers the draft South Kesteven District Council Street Trading Policy and recommends it to Cabinet, with or without amendments**
- 2. Suggests to Cabinet which streets are to be considered consent streets**
 - (a) Specific streets as outlined in the proposed draft Street Trading Policy**
 - (b) To mirror the Public Space Protection Orders (Alcohol Control) areas**

Decision Information

Does the report contain any exempt or confidential information not for publication?	No
What are the relevant corporate priorities?	Sustainable South Kesteven Enabling economic opportunities Effective council
Which wards are impacted?	All wards

1. Implications

Taking into consideration implications relating to finance and procurement, legal and governance, risk and mitigation, health and safety, diversity and inclusion, safeguarding, staffing, community safety, mental health and wellbeing and the impact on the Council's declaration of a climate change emergency, the following implications have been identified:

Finance and Procurement

- 1.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with the recommendations in this report. The costs associated with delivering the Licensing service are recovered through licensing fees which are reviewed annually by the Council.

Completed by: David Scott – Assistant Director of Finance and deputy s151 officer

Legal and Governance

- 1.2 Whilst each individual licensing application or enforcement decision will be judged on its own merits, a Policy ensures a transparent and consistent approach to licensing that will reduce the opportunity for challenge through the Courts. Any departure from the Policy should be based on material evidence and documented giving clear and compelling reasons.

Completed by: James Welbourn, Democratic Services Manager

Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion

- 1.3 An equality impact assessment has been undertaken for the proposed updated Street Trading policy. No significant negative impacts. See Appendix 1.

Completed by: Heather Green, Licensing Manager

Community Safety

- 1.4 It is important that the public, businesses in the locality and those using highways can do so safely. The policy puts into place conditions and standards for all street traders and collectors to adhere to maintain community safety.

Completed by: Ayeisha Kirkham, Head of Public Protection

2. Background to the Report

- 2.1. Under Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, a Local Authority may regulate street trading in their area. Street trading is the selling or exposing or offering for sale of any article (including a living thing) in any street. The Council adopted these provisions for the whole of the district on 1 September 2006, designating all streets within the district as 'Consent Streets'
- 2.2. The existing Street Trading Policy was approved by Cabinet in June 2022. The Policy is fundamental to protecting public safety and keeping people from harm. It provides a framework upon which the Authority delivers its statutory function in relation to street trading activities.
- 2.3. The review has been undertaken to ensure it reflects current guidance and continues to be fit for purpose following receipt of feedback from users of the Policy.
- 2.4. The feedback related to the questions asked within the consultation. Whilst the review was undertaken the Policy has been suspended for 6 months, with effect from 25 July 2025.
- 2.5. The proposed changes to the Street Trading Policy are highlighted in red in Appendix 2, along with a full outline of changes proposed in Appendix 3.

3. Key Considerations

- 3.1 There is no statutory requirement for a local authority to adopt a Street Trading Policy nor to designate any areas or streets as consent locations.
- 3.2 However, a policy and confirmation of the adopted consent streets provides clarity and a framework which reinforces effective practices, aids transparency and consistent decision making by Officers and Council Members.
- 3.3 Consideration has been given to the areas to be consent streets. The current proposals are detailed in the draft policy; However, Committee may wish to follow the wider Public Space Protection Orders (Alcohol Control) areas detailed in Section 7 – Background papers.

4. Other Options Considered

- 4.1 The Committee may decide to take on board the consultation feedback but recommend to leave the Policy as currently implemented.
- 4.2 Committee may wish to recommend all or some of the proposed changes.

5. Reasons for the Recommendations

- 5.1 The policy and proposed updates support the Authority in fulfilling its duties associated with Street Trading, if consent areas or streets are specified.
- 5.2 Whilst the legislation in this area has not significantly changed, reviewing the Policy has provided an opportunity to update the intention of the Policy and the enforceability of the Policy.

6. Consultation

- 6.1 Consultation has been undertaken between Wednesday 8th October 2025 and 22 October 2025.
- 6.2 There is no legal duty placed upon the Council to consult on the Street Trading Policy. Prior to 2022 only relevant stakeholders were consulted, however, as the policy can impact the public, businesses in the locality and users of the policy it was considered good practice to continue with wider consultation.
- 6.3 A consultation report has been produced at Appendix 4.
- 6.4 Following consideration of the consultation the main areas that have been changed in the Policy relate to:
- Designating specific streets as consent areas as opposed to the whole of South Kesteven. This change would ensure that effective patrols and enforcement can be undertaken.
 - Removed private land (30m from the centre of a road) from the definition of Street
 - Detailing how convictions disclosed on a DBS or application will be considered
 - Introduction of a one-off event consent to assist and encourage local events, reducing the requirement for every street trader to hold a street trading consent within an event
 - Amended the consultation requirements, to enable more discretion as to when and who are consulted, dependent upon the duration of the consent and location. This will assist with issuing consents in a timely manner.

7. Background papers

7.1 [Alcohol Control Areas Redacted.pdf](#)

8. Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix 1 – Equality and Diversity Assessment
- 8.2 Appendix 2 – Proposed draft Street Trading Policy
- 8.3 Appendix 3 – Full outline of proposed changes
- 8.4 Appendix 4 – Consultation Report