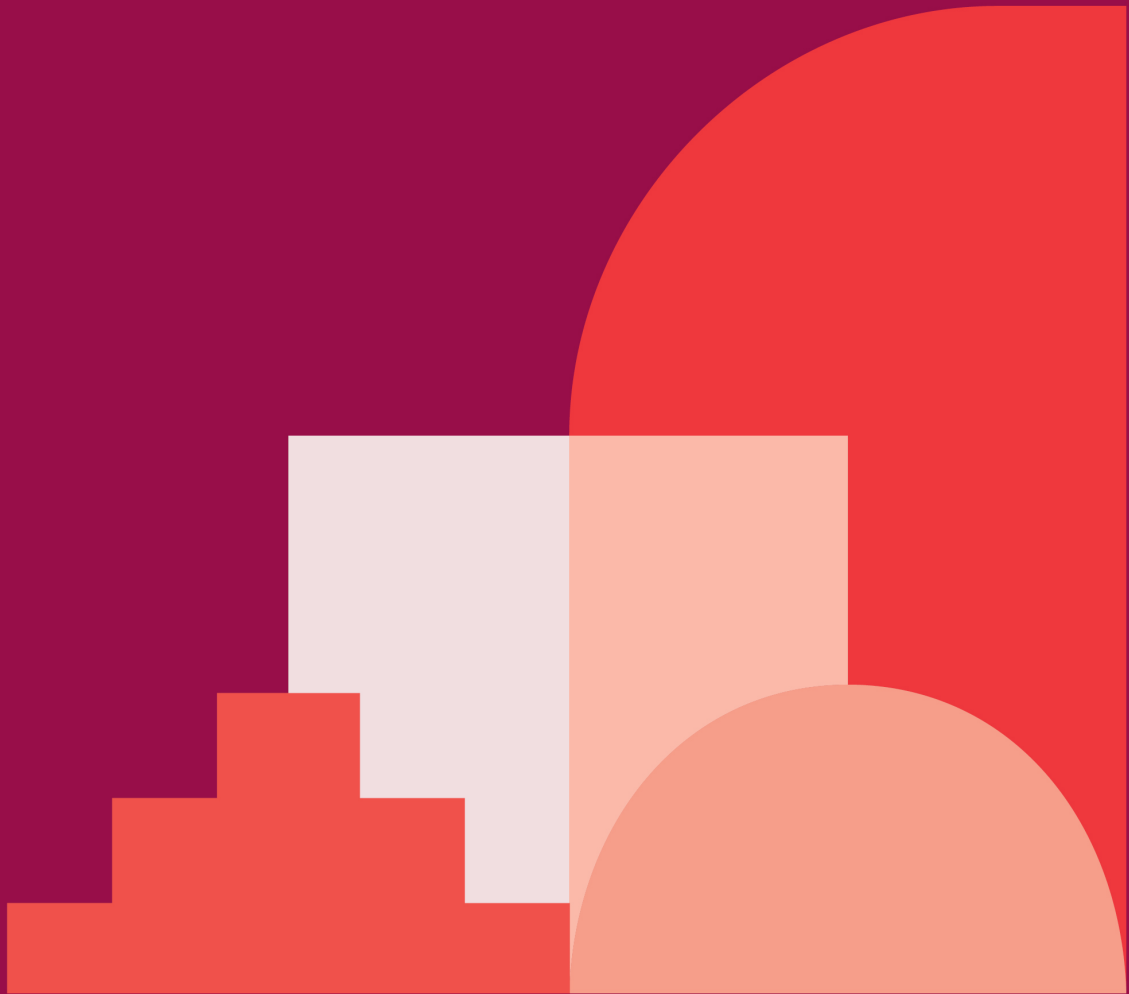


Busking Policy

V2



Title	Busking Policy
Summary	This policy supports the Inner West Council's Community Strategic Plan and provides information for buskers wanting to undertake busking performances. Buskers intending to perform are to do so under the conditions expressed in this policy
Document Type	Policy
Relevant Strategic Plan Objective	Strategic Direction 3: Creative communities and a strong economy
Legislative Reference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>
Related Council Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model Code of Conduct • Local Government Proclamation (2016)
Version Control	See last page

Contents

1. Purpose	4
2. Scope.....	4
3. Definitions.....	4
4. Statement	5
5. Policy	5
6. Breaches of this Policy	7
7. Administrative Changes.....	7
8. Version Control – Policy History	8

1. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to provide a framework that supports artists/performers and monitors and mitigates any risks which could arise from busking.

The policy provides the conditions under which busking is permitted in the Inner West Local Government Area on community land controlled by Inner West Council.

2. Scope

This policy applies to members of the public who wish to perform in public in the Inner West Council local government area.

3. Definitions

In the Busking Policy, the following terms have the following meanings:

Terms	Definitions
Councillor	Inner West Council elected representative
Council Officer	Inner West Council members of staff (including full-time, part-time, casual and contracted staff)
Act	<i>Local Government Act 1993</i>
Busker	<p>Someone who performs in public for the entertainment of passers-by/pedestrians.</p> <p>A busker can perform musically, dance, act, circus skills, comedy, magic, creating a temporary / handheld artwork.</p>
LGA	<p>Inner West Local Government Area</p> <p>The Inner West Local Government Area</p> <p>Includes the suburbs of Annandale, Ashfield, Balmain, Balmain East, Birchgrove, Dobroyd Point, Dulwich Hill, Enmore, Haberfield, Leichhardt, Lewisham, Lilyfield, Marrickville, Newtown, Petersham, Rozelle, Stanmore, St Peters, Summer Hill, Sydenham, and Tempe. As well as parts of Ashbury, Camperdown, Croydon, Croydon Park, Hurlstone Park, and Newtown.</p>

4. Statement

The objectives of this policy are to ensure that council satisfies legislative requirements and achieves best practice in managing the public domain of artists/performers. This policy has two objectives. The policy:

- Encourage performances that enhance the vibrancy, vitality, and cultural expression of urban areas of the Inner West Local Government Area (LGA)
- Provide a framework to ensure busking activities are supported and managed whilst maintaining the well-being and safety of buskers, and the broader community

This policy supports the Inner West Council's Community Strategic Plan (Strategic Direction 3 – Creative Communities and a Strong Economy) to provide information for artists/performers wanting to undertake busking performances in the Inner West Local Government Area on land which Inner West Council is the landowner.

Buskers intending to perform are to do so under the conditions expressed in this policy.

5. Policy

Approval process

Busking and other public performance activities within the Inner West LGA, on land which Inner West Council is the landowner, requires approval and a busking permit from Inner West Council.

To obtain approval and a busking permit, buskers must secure approval apply from the Inner West Council, by completing a Busking Permit Application Form and Agreement. Application forms are available on Council's website at <https://www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/council/forms>

Pursuant to Sections 113(1) and 113(5) of the Local Government Act 1993 requires the Inner West Council to keep a record or register of any person or persons approved to busk in the Inner West LGA. The information contained in this record/register is to be made available for public inspection at the office of the Council upon request.

The accessible information includes, but is not limited to, the name and home address of the busker, and a description of what has been approved.

Busking permits are valid for 12 months and incur no fee. Buskers under 18 years of age require consent from a parent/guardian.

Performance conditions

Buskers are encouraged to:

- Advise nearby cafés/stores/businesses of their plans before setting up
- Comply with directions issued by an authorised person (Council staff) who may request the busker to cease performing
- Be aware of their location and ensure that pedestrian and vehicular thoroughfares are left clear
- Keep their performance area clean
- Keep their area safe and free of hazards
- Share the public space with other buskers in a courteous manner
- Respect the rights and diversity of our business owners and community members.
- The sale of goods and services (i.e., CDs) are permitted under the condition it complements the busking performance. Advertising/promotion is permitted, only if it is displayed in a manner that does not impinge passers-by/ pedestrians', is only displayed during the performance period, and complements the busking performance.

A busker may accept voluntary donations (money or goods) in appreciation of their performance; however, donations are to be offered voluntarily and at the discretion of the audience. Buskers are not to request donations from the audience.

Buskers are asked not to:

- Perform excessively loud and disrupt business trading including retail or dining establishments, affect workplace performance or detract from residential or public amenity. Busking in the vicinity of the Marrickville Metro along Victoria Road, buskers are not to use electrical amplification. However, in remaining areas buskers are permitted to use amplification under the condition Council reserves the right to impose a decibel limit at its discretion.
- Use obscene language or inappropriate acts (acts must be appropriate for all ages)
- Set up any temporary structure such as a stall, table, or stage
- Engage in any hazardous type activities including acts with fire, knives, and other dangerous goods
- Perform acts with live animals or reptiles
- Perform acts which is offensive but not limited to, racial, sexual, gender or disability
- Request donations from the audience

Areas Where Busking is Permitted (Permitted Busking Areas).

Busking is permitted in the main streets/urban centers in the Inner West Local Government Area. The most appropriate busking areas are locations which are open, have room to cater for buskers and are not used for a specific purpose (such as a bus stop). Examples of appropriate busking areas include a public bench, plaza, wide footpaths, and outdoor dining areas that are not in-use. Locations which neighbour residential areas, buskers are advised to perform at a reasonable level of noise for the location and to be respectful of residents.

Conditions where buskers are not permitted to busk:

- Areas that already have approved public events taking place
- Without express approval of Council
- Along Liverpool Road, Ashfield (except in front of the Ashfield Civic Centre)

Busking is permitted between 9am and 9:00pm, 7 days a week. Buskers are permitted to perform for a maximum of 2 (continuous) hours at any one site. Buskers are encouraged to then move to a different location upon completion of their performance.

6. Breaches of this Policy

Suspected Breaches of this Policy are to be reported to the general manager.

Alleged breaches of this Policy shall be addressed in accordance with the Code of Conduct, as detailed in the Code and in the Procedures for the Administration of the Code.

7. Administrative Changes

From time-to-time circumstances may change leading to the need for minor administrative changes to this document. Where an update does not materially alter this document, such a change may be made including branding, Council Officer titles or department changes and legislative name or title changes which are considered minor in nature and not required to be formally endorsed.

8. Version Control – Policy History

This policy will be formally reviewed every three years from the date of adoption or as required.

Governance use only:

Document	Busking Policy	<i>Uncontrolled Copy When Printed</i>	
Custodian	Social and Cultural Planning Manager	Version #	Version 2
Approved By	Council	ECM Document #	34322752
Next Review Date	May 2027		
Amended by	Changes made	Date	
Social and Cultural Planning	IWC Created Policy	30 April 2019	
Social and Cultural Planning	Policy reviewed, no changes.	21 May 2024	