



EVENTS IN BROMSGROVE HIGH STREET AND ADJACENT STREETS

POLICY STATEMENT

Introduction

The Council deals with many kinds of applications for events in the High Street, Bromsgrove, and in neighbouring streets. The following statement of policy is intended to assist people considering such events and to indicate what events are likely to be permitted and under what conditions.

The Area which is covered by this Policy

Bromsgrove High Street is pedestrianised between its junctions with Stratford Road and The Strand (at the north end of the pedestrianised area) and with New Road (at the south end of the pedestrianised area). A small pedestrianised area also exists adjacent to the Chapel Street shopping precinct and there is a larger area adjacent to the Mill Lane Shopping precinct. However, the Mill Lane precinct is private property and the Council does not control events which take place there. Anyone interested in using this area should therefore apply to the company owning the land, Dragon Retail Properties, 8-10 New Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1AF (tel: 020 7415 5000).

It should be noted that the Traffic Order relating to the pedestrianised areas prohibits the movement of any vehicle between the hours of 10.30 a.m. and 4.00 p.m.

It should also be noted that the pedestrianised area is subject to an Order under the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1982, which requires anyone selling any article to obtain a Street Trading Permit from the Council.

The Policy

1. The Council will consider all applications for events in the High Street on their individual merits.
2. All events, and all items or vehicles brought into the High Street must not cause obstruction to pedestrians, cash machines, shop entrances or to emergency vehicles which may have to enter the pedestrianised area. In certain circumstances, an organiser of an event will be required to agree the exact site location(s) in advance with the

Council's Economic Development and Town Centre Manager. Any vehicles which are brought into the High Street must be on site by no later than 10.30 a.m. and must leave no earlier than 4.00 p.m. The Council will also consider whether a vehicle is likely to cause damage to the paving and, if so, the request will be refused.

3. Anyone organising an event which takes place in the High Street may be responsible for any loss or injury arising as a result of the event in the High Street. The Council has no liability in this respect. The Council strongly recommends that organisers of events undertake or obtain a Health and Safety Risk Assessment. The Council also strongly recommends that organisers of events take out public liability insurance.
4. As a general rule, requests for events which are charitable or non-commercial will be approved. Requests which involve the use of a tombola will also be approved.
5. Some requests for commercial events may also be approved, provided that those events are not likely to remove trade from existing town centre traders and where the event is likely to attract visitors to the town centre.
6. Some events may give rise to community safety concerns – e.g. a campaign which is controversial. If the Council believes that an event may give rise to concerns about public order, permission will be refused.
7. A Farmers' Market takes place in the High Street on the second Saturday of each month and the Council prefers to avoid other events on those days, with the exception of charitable collections. Even if other events are permitted at the same time as the Farmers' Market, they will have to take place in the part of the High Street to the south of the Housman Statue.

Other Permits and Licences

Some events will require other permits or licences to be granted by the Council. These include Street Trading Consents (if any article – apart from certain exempt articles – is to be sold). If the Council grants permission for an event to take place in the High Street, that permission is still subject to the organiser(s) obtaining all the other necessary permits and licences from the Council, which could, under certain circumstances, be refused despite the fact that permission to use the pedestrianised area has been granted.

A Premises Licence for the High Street is in force which permits regulated entertainment (music, dancing, live and recorded music) on various days between certain times. Further information can be obtained from the Council's Economic Development and Town Centre Manager (Mr. Peter Michael – tel. 01527 881327).

Approval of Applications

The Council's Head of Legal and Democratic Services has delegated authority to approve applications which fall within this policy, provided that the various conditions referred to above are met. In respect of applications which do not fully comply with the policy, or which are likely to be controversial for whatever reason, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services will refer the application to the Council's Executive Cabinet for a decision.

Applications should be submitted in writing to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services at The Council House, Burcot Lane, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B60 1AA.