

Street Collection Permits Policy

Portfolio:	Non-executive function
Ward(s) Affected:	All

Purpose

To reconsider the allocation of collection days reserved specifically for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, and to amend the Street Collection Policy as necessary.

Background

1. This Committee last considered the Council's Street Collection Policy at a meeting on 7 March 2012. A copy of the minutes is attached at Annex 1.
2. It is illegal to hold a Street Collection (to collect money or sell articles for the benefit of charitable or other purposes) without obtaining a Street Collection Licence (SCL) from the Council if that collection is to be held 'in a street or public place'.
3. Local authorities alone issue SCLs under Section 5 of the Police, Factories, etc. (Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1916, as amended by the Local Government Act 1972 and Schedule 29 of that Act.
4. The Council has issued Regulations under these statutory powers (See copy attached). These are laid down by central Government and are largely the same for all authorities.

Current Position

5. The current Street Collection Policy, copied at Annex 2, lays out clear aims and objectives and defines how the Policy should be applied.
6. Paragraph 4 states 'A maximum of four collection days shall be issued to each organisation per calendar year.'
7. Paragraph 7 states 'On the Thursday, Friday and Saturday preceding Remembrance Sunday, the whole of the Borough will be reserved for the British Legion Poppy Appeal to collect.'
8. Representatives from the Royal British Legion have been in communication with Officers requesting the number of days allocated to their charity specifically, be increased from the general 4 to 10 days. In addition, for specific days to be reserved for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Namely, the last Saturday in October and from 1 to 11 November annually.
9. Members will be aware that 2014 is the 100th Anniversary of The Great War being declared and there is likely to be heightened public and media interest through to 2018 and beyond.

Recommendation

10. The Committee is requested to RESOLVE whether not the number of days reserved and allocated to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal should be increased and for the Street Collection Policy to be amended accordingly.

Annexes: Minute extract from March 2012 (Annex 1)
Current Street Collection Policy (Annex 2)

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**Minutes of a Meeting of the Licensing
Committee held at Surrey Heath House,
Camberley on 7 March 2012 (extract)**

07/L Street Collection Policy

The Committee at its meeting on 14 September 2011 had considered requests received from 2 charities to receive an additional day's collection per year. The Street Collection Policy had only allowed for a charity to receive a licence for one day's collection per year, although a number of charities had been granted additional days as exceptions. At that meeting the Committee had agreed that a review of the Policy was required.

A Working Group had met and considered revisions to the Policy, following which a new Street Collection Policy had been drafted. The new Policy would allow a charity to carry out up to 4 collections in the borough each year, although, with the exception of the Camberley Ex Round Tablers 41 Club, the Rotary Club of Camberley, and the Camberley and Frimley Lions, no organisation would be able to collect in the same area more than once per calendar year. Members were reminded that, as the majority of collections were requested for Camberley Town Centre, particularly on Saturdays, this would ensure fairness by maximising the number of organisations able to collect in the Town Centre.

RESOLVED that the new Street Collections Policy, as attached at Annex A to these minutes, be adopted.