

REPORT TO:	Licensing Committee
DATE:	4 th December 2019
LEAD OFFICER:	Head of Planning and Public Protection
CONTACT OFFICER:	Senior Technical Officer (Licensing) licensing@denbighshire.gov.uk 01824 706433
SUBJECT:	Proposed Street Collection Policy

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.2 To present to Members, a proposed Street Collection Policy, for their consideration, which will allow the Council to make consistent and transparent decisions.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 Legislation requires that the Council must licence Street Collections in any street or public place for charitable or other purposes.
- 2.2 The Council currently does not have a clear and detailed Policy to consider such applications, causing some uncertainty to both applicants and Licensing Officers.
- 2.3 Officers have drafted an up to date policy for consideration so that all interested parties are informed of the requirements and process.

3. POWER TO MAKE THE DECISION

- 3.1 Section 5 of the Police, Factories, Etc (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1916 (as amended by the Local Government Act 1972, s 251 and Schedule 29)

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 4.1 The Council is empowered under the above Act to licence collections made in any street or public place for charitable or other purposes.

- 4.2 In addition to the above powers, the Council has made Regulations under the above legislation for the control of Street Collections within the County.
- 4.3 The current policy is ***“only one street collection is permitted each week in respect of each town/community. Societies may only carry out one collection in each town/community within a twelve month period”***.
- 4.4 Whilst it is not a legal requirement for the Council to have such a policy, it is considered best practice to adopt such a policy to provide applicants with guidance and the Council with a framework to make consistent and transparent decisions when considering applications. A documented process will help give people who wish to donate to charity confidence that they are able to do so in good faith knowing that the money or products they donate will directly benefit the charity.
- 4.5 The proposed policy also aims to avoid saturating the area with collectors from different charities.
- 4.6 Over the years, charitable collections have evolved and Members will be aware of the powerful fund raising platforms currently available online known as ‘crowd-funding’. There remains a demand for fundraising by street collection however the frequency and ultimately, success of these collections depend on the numbers of visitors attracted to the collection area.
- 4.7 A copy of the proposed Street Collection Policy can be found at Appendix A.

5. **CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 Given that the proposed policy will cover all aspects of the process and requirements, Officers have assessed that as there is no significant change to the purpose of the existing policy, as detailed in 4.3 above, and should Members be minded to support the proposed Street Collection Policy, consultation will only take place with charitable organisations that have applied and collected within the County over the last 12 months.
- 5.2 Where objections are received, a further report will be presented to the Licensing Committee to enable members to consider such responses. However, in the event of no objections being received it is proposed that Members approve to adopt the policy.

6. **RECOMMENDATION**

- 6.1 For Members to consider supporting the proposed Street Collection Policy as detailed at Appendix A, and in doing so authorise Officers to commence formal consultation as detailed in 5.1.
- 6.2 Following consultation, for Officers to:
- i. Report any objections back to the Licensing Committee for consideration and approval of the proposed new Policy.
 - ii. In the event of no responses received, Members to approve to adopt the Street Collection Policy with effect from the 1st April 2020.