

Regulations made by East Northamptonshire Council with regard to Street Collections

In pursuance of section 5 of the Police, Factories etc. (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1916, as amended by Section 251 and Schedule 29 of the Local Government Act 1972, East Northamptonshire Council hereby made the following Regulations with respect to the places where and the conditions under which persons may be permitted in any street or public place within the District of East Northamptonshire to collect money or sell articles for the benefit of charitable or other purposes:-

1. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires - "collection" means a collection of money or a sale of articles for the benefit of charitable or other purposes and the word "collector" shall be construed accordingly:

"Promoter" means a person who causes others to act as collectors;

"permit" means a permit for a collection;

"contributor" means a person who contributes to a collection and includes a purchaser of articles of sale for the benefit of charitable or other purposes;

"collecting box" means a box or other receptacle for the reception of money from contributors.

2. No collection, other than a collection taken at a meeting in the open air, shall be made in any street or public place within the District of East Northamptonshire unless a promoter shall have obtained a permit from East Northamptonshire Council.

3. Application for a permit shall be made in writing not later than one month before the date on which it is proposed to make the collection:

Provided that East Northamptonshire Council may reduce the period of one month if satisfied that there are special reasons for so doing.

4. No collection shall be made except upon the day and between the hours stated on the permit.
5. East Northamptonshire Council may, in granting a permit, limit the collection to such streets or public places or such parts thereof as it thinks fit.

6. (1) No person may assist or take part in any collection without the written authority of a promoter.

2) Any person authorised under paragraph (1) above shall produce such written authority forthwith for inspection on being requested to do so by a duly authorised officer of East Northamptonshire Council or any constable.

7. No collection shall be made in any part of the carriage way of any street which has a footway:

Provided that East Northamptonshire Council may, if it thinks fit, allow a collection to take place on the said carriageway where such collection has been authorised to be held in connection with a procession.

8. No collection shall be made in a manner likely to inconvenience or annoy any person.

9. No collector shall importune any person to the annoyance of such person.

10. While collecting -

- (a) a collector shall remain stationary; and
- (b) a collector or two collectors together shall not be nearer to another collector than 25 metres:

Provided that East Northamptonshire Council, may if it thinks fit, waive the requirements of this Regulation in respect of a collection which has been authorised to be held in connection with a procession.

11. **No promoter, collector or person who is otherwise connected with a collection shall permit a person under the age of sixteen years to act as a collector.**

12. (1) Every collector shall carry a collecting box.
- (2) All collecting boxes shall be numbered consecutively and shall be securely closed and sealed in such a way as to prevent them being opened without the seal being broken.
- (3) All money received by a collector from contributors shall immediately be placed in the collecting box.
- (4) Every collector shall deliver, unopened, all collecting boxes in his possession to a promoter.

13. A collector shall not carry or use any collecting box, receptacle or tray which does not bear displayed permanently thereon the name of the charity or fund which is to benefit, nor any collection box which is not duly numbered.

14. (1) Subject to paragraph (2) below a collecting box shall be opened in the presence of a promoter and another responsible person.
- (2) Where a collecting box is delivered, unopened, to a bank, it may be opened by an official of the bank.
- (3) As soon as a collecting box has been opened, the person opening it shall count the contents and shall enter the amount with the number of the collecting box on a list which shall be certified by that person.

15. (1) No payment shall be made to any collector.
- (2) No payment shall be made out of the proceeds of a collection, either directly or indirectly, to any other person connected with the promotion or conduct of such collection for, or in respect of, services connected therewith, except such payments as may have been approved by East Northamptonshire Council.

16. (1) within one month after the date of any collection the person to whom a permit has been granted shall forward to East Northamptonshire Council
- (a) a statement in the form set out in the Schedule to those Regulations, or in a form to the like effect, showing the amount received and the expenses and payments incurred in connection with such collection, and certified by that person and either a qualified accountant or an independent responsible person acceptable to East Northamptonshire Council;

- (b) a list of collectors;
- (c) a list of amounts contained in each collecting box;

and shall if required by East Northamptonshire Council, satisfy it as to the proper application of the proceeds of the collection.

- (2) The said person shall also, within the same period, at the expense of that person and after either a qualified accountant or an independent responsible person acceptable to East Northamptonshire Council has given his certificate under paragraph (1)(a) above, publish in such newspaper or newspapers as East Northamptonshire Council may direct a statement showing the name of the person to whom the permit has been granted, the area to which the permit relates, the name of the charity or fund to benefit, the date of the collection, the amount collected, and the amount of the expenses and payments incurred in connection with such collection.
- (3) East Northamptonshire Council may, if satisfied there are special reasons for so doing extend the period of one month referred to in paragraph (1) above.
- (4) For the purpose of this Regulation "a qualified Accountant" means a member of one or more of the following bodies:-
 - The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales;
 - The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland;
 - The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ireland;
 - The Association of Certified Accountants.

17. These regulations shall not apply -

- (a) in respect of a collection taken at a meeting in the open air;

or

- (b) to the selling of articles in any street or public place when the articles are sold in the ordinary course of trade.

These regulations shall come into operation upon the expiration of the period of one month beginning with the date on which they are confirmed by the Secretary of State. They shall have effect in substitution for those contained in the Schedule to the Charitable Collections (Transitional Provisions) Order 1974 and adopted by East Northamptonshire Council on 15th May 1974, which, as having effect by virtue of that adoption, are hereby revoked.

NOTE: Any person who acts in contravention of any of the foregoing regulations shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding twenty-five pounds or in the case of a second or subsequent offence not exceeding twenty five pounds.