



SELLING ON THE STREETS OF EXETER

The streets of Exeter City centre are busy with shoppers and tourists the whole year round. Many people would like to set up stalls to sell their goods; so many that the streets would be blocked if Exeter City Council had not set up controls. The Council has designated some of its streets (including pedestrian areas) as “consent streets” (need the consent of the City Council to trade), some as “prohibited streets” (trading is prohibited) and some as “licence streets” (trading only with a licence issued by the City Council).

One of the exceptions to the need for a street trading consent is a person who holds a Pedlars Certificate under the Pedlars Act 1871 **and** is acting as a pedlar.

What do I have to do to “act as a pedlar”?

The courts have explained what the Pedlar’s Act means:

- 1 You must go from “town to town on foot”, so you must not keep coming back to Exeter every day.
2. You must trade as you travel, as distinct from someone who merely travels to a particular location to trade. A trader who sells, or exposes for sale, goods from a portable stand in a street is not classed as a pedlar.
3. You should **only** stop when someone wants to buy something from you or when you are resting. At those times you are resting your goods should not be offered or exposed for sale.
4. You must carry your goods, continually moving from area to area and not just moving around a city centre tourist area such as High street, Fore street, Sidwell Street etc.
5. You may use a small-wheeled trolley such as a suitcase carrier to assist you in carrying your goods but **not** as a device to carry and expose for sale all, or the vast majority, of your goods.

The Council and the Police welcome people who trade within the law. However, they will use enforcement staff and CCTV to ensure the streets are free from illegal street traders. If you are an illegal street trader you risk prosecution.

If you need to speak to someone about the issues raised in this information sheet then contact the licensing office <mailto:licensing@exeter.gov.uk> or telephone 01392 265702.