

**PAVEMENT CAFES**  
**A SPECIAL CITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE**  
**BY PRESTON CITY COUNCIL**  
**NOTES FOR GUIDANCE**

This leaflet is designed to give a guide to the requirements for pavement cafes but is not intended to establish the complete list of requirements that need to be fulfilled.

If you are interested in opening a Continental style street cafe, you are advised to contact the Engineering Department on 01772 906792 after reading these notes.

Conditions are strict and you will need to convince us of the quality of your proposals.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Continental pavement cafes add interest to city centre and help to create a lively and vibrant atmosphere - they are also good for business.

We are keen to encourage cafe and restaurant owners to move on to the pavements and areas adjacent to their premises and create Continental style street cafes.

The purpose of the following guidelines is to ensure that pavement cafes are safe and attractive additions, which will enhance the quality of the city centre.

### **The current annual fee is £310.00**

If you need any further information please contact:

Environment Directorate  
Town Hall  
Lancaster Road  
Preston  
PR1 2RL  
01772 906792

### **SAFETY AND ACCESS FOR PEDESTRIANS**

Outdoor cafes will normally be allowed on pavements and other areas where there is public access.

On a normal street there must be at least 1.8 metres (6 feet) between the carriageway and the front of the pavement cafe to allow pedestrians to pass by safely.

On streets with high pedestrian usage, there must remain at least 2.75 metres (9 feet) of unobstructed space.

Each case will be judged on its merits and the unobstructed space will be set between 1.8 and 2.75 metres according to the frequency of pedestrian usage. Certain exceptions may apply to streets such as Fishergate for example.

In a pedestrianised area there must be at least 3.6 metres (12 feet) of unobstructed space in front of the pavement cafe area.

If your pavement cafe is directly in front of your premises there must be a 1.5 metre wide (5 feet) unobstructed corridor to the shop entrance at all times.

If your pavement cafe is directly outside your shop-front then a physical barrier of not less than 0.6 metres (2 feet) height must be provided to guide people with disabilities around the area.

These barriers must not be permanently fixed to the ground or pavement and must be of a design agreed by the Council.

Examples could include ropes and posts, planting boxes and flower tubs.

Tables, chairs and any associated structures must be moved from the area after trading hours, but before **7:00p.m. on Police Instructions.**

## **CUSTOMER HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Pigeons and other birds could be a potential health hazard in some areas of the city centre. In all locations table-umbrellas or canopies will be essential to minimise this risk.

The Environmental Health Department will be able to advise you on this. (Telephone 01772 906907.)

It is important to keep an outdoor cafe looking neat and tidy to attract customers. Tables, chairs and the outdoor cafe area must be cleaned regularly and food debris and other waste removed immediately.

Food and drink must be transferred from indoor premises to the outdoor area by waitress or waiter service.

Noise disturbance, litter or smells, which are a nuisance to other premises, are not acceptable and amplified music will not be permitted.

All tables, chairs and structures relating to the pavement cafes must be approved by the Council.

## **GENERAL CONDITIONS**

Pavement cafe consents will initially be granted for a 12-month period to enable the Council to ensure that these guidelines are being followed.

For outdoor cafes on pavements, proof of indemnification against all claims, injuries or accidents with public liability cover up to £5 million for any one event will be required.

Preston City Council reserves the right to charge a rental fee if your proposed outdoor cafe is on its land.

The granting of a licence for establishing an outdoor cafe does not permit the sale of alcohol within the outdoor cafe area. **Separate licencing arrangements apply.**

Preston City Council will not be liable for any loss of business or other disruption caused by third parties including private contractors or works by utility services companies.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

Initially, telephone or write to the Council explaining your proposal and enclosing a sketch plan of your cafe layout with measured dimensions of the site shown. We will contact you to agree the details and provide you with a pavement cafe application form.

Write to the Council at:

Preston City Council,  
Town Hall  
Lancaster Road  
PRESTON  
PR1 2RL

Telephone 01772 906792 and ask for Russell Rees.