

Managing Busking Near Your Business

Kingston First recognizes that while buskers bring vibrancy and culture to our town, they can sometimes cause disruption to your daily operations.

This guide is designed to empower you with the tools to resolve issues quickly and effectively.



Scan the QR Code to visit the
Kingston Council website →

or email info@kingstonfirst.co.uk
for any queries



Step 1: Speak Directly to the Performer

Most buskers are amicable and want to maintain a good relationship with local businesses.

- Be polite but clear: Explain how the noise is affecting your ability to serve customers (e.g., "We can't hear transactions at the till").
- Refer to the Guidelines: Use the **Guidelines on the Kingston Council website** to show what is expected.
- Ask for a compromise: Ask them to lower their volume or remind them of the 60-minute relocation guideline.

Step 2: Monitor & Record

If a busker is uncooperative, gathering evidence is essential for further action:

- Measure the Volume: Use a free sound monitoring app to check decibel levels. Note that prolonged exposure **above 70 dB** can be harmful.
- Keep a Log: Record the date, time, duration, and a brief description of the performer.

Step 3: Formal Reporting

- Noise Nuisance: If the noise is persistent and excessive, report it to **RBK Environmental Health**. They are more likely to investigate if they receive multiple complaints about the same performer.
- Police (**Extreme Cases Only**): Only contact the police if there is a public safety hazard, blocked emergency access, or intimidating behavior.