

Berwick St Market – Interim policy 2018

Berwick Street market is currently full following a period of open applications.

Research with residents, workers and visitors to the market in 2016 found there was a demand for more stalls that offered a wide range of goods, of high quality and reflecting the history of the street with little desire for more hot food stalls.

With the new street traders offering predominantly hot food (and the street having a number of food and drink businesses on it), the council is introducing an interim policy to widen the opportunity for local makers and businesses to trade on Berwick Street to meet the demand for a more varied market.

This interim policy will be in place until December 2018 while the council develops a market strategy to run across all its street markets. Once drafted, the market strategy will be subject to consultation before it comes into effect.

During this interim period, we will not be approving any applications to sell hot food at Berwick Street market to enable us to test a model where we support non-food businesses and bring a more diverse mix of commodities to the market using a small number of vacant stalls.

For those traders who have a licence to trade on Berwick Street, variations will be considered on an individual basis, in line with the provisions of the City of Westminster Act 1999, the current street trading policy and this interim policy for Berwick Street market. Variations to change a licence from fresh produce or non-food to sell hot take away food will not be approved where this would bring the total number of stalls selling hot take away food to over 70%

The following terms will apply during 2018 on Berwick Street market

- No applications will be approved that would result in the market consisting of more than 70% of hot food stalls
- Where applications are for commodities other than hot take away food, priority will be given to applicants who are first time traders, that have not traded before.
- On Saturday the market will consist of 80% non-food and fresh produce stalls.
- Applications for fresh produce or stalls selling food to take home ie. Pre-cooked, freshly produced will be considered on a case-by-case basis in view of the availability of the items on Berwick Street and amongst the existing traders.
- Applications for less than 6 days will be supported

We welcome applicants selling high quality handmade items, crafts, designed goods, fashion, unique gift items and jewellery. We are supportive of local businesses and of those businesses who are trading for the first time in Westminster. We are also supportive of locally created goods that could bring new customers to the market.

Temporary (short term one off) events will be supported on Berwick Street where they

- Can be accommodated within the existing market space
- Complement existing retail and traders on the market
- Promote a new types of commodities on the market
- Support enterprise initiatives from local community groups or local education establishments
- Are aligned with cultural events taking place locally or across London

All events must be approved by the events and filming team at WCC and hold the necessary licences and approvals

This policy applies to Berwick Street only. For details on vacancies at other Westminster markets [\[click here\]](#).