

**Licensing Sub-Committee 3 – 13<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

**Report of the Director of Corporate Resources**

**Application for the Grant of a Street Collection Permit**

**Innerspace Concession Management Ltd**  
**(Unique Fundraising on behalf of Cats Protection)**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To consider the application for the grant of a Street Collection Permit made by Mr David Wylie of Inner Space Concession Management Ltd on behalf of Unique Fundraising for the benefit of the charity known as Cats Protection.

**Background**

2. Over the past 2 or 3 years a number of charities have conducted their charitable collections by way of face to face fundraising, which usually relates to the collection of direct debits/standing orders from shoppers/pedestrians.
3. Professional fundraising companies normally conduct these collections on behalf of charities from whom, they receive payment.
4. The Licensing Section has over the years received complaints from members of the public, Town Centre Manager and the Deputy Leader of the Council in relation to the manner in which these collections have been conducted.
5. There had been some confusion as to whether these companies require a street collection permit to undertake this kind of collection or whether they were only required to inform the Council when the collection takes place.
6. The Licensing Officer therefore undertook a review of the Licensing Policy in respect of applications for the grant of street collections. This matter was considered by the Licensing and Safety Committee on the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2011. The Committee resolved that street collection permits would be required and that any application for the grant of a street collection by the method of face to face fundraising/direct debits should be referred to the Licensing & Safety Sub-Committee for determination.
7. On the 24<sup>th</sup> October 2014, Mr David Wylie of Inner Space Concession Management Ltd on behalf Unique Fundraising made application for the grant of a Street Collection Permit in respect of the charity known as Cats Protection.

Copies of the application along with the relevant accounts have been forwarded to Committee Members and interested parties.

8. In January 1999, the Licensing Section in accordance with the Neighbouring Authorities Working Group introduced a policy requiring all street collection permit applicants to submit income and expenditure accounts for the previous financial year.
9. In recent years, applications for street collections have been received from independent commercial companies undertaking collections on behalf of specific charities. Therefore, in November 2009, the Council introduced a further policy that all applicants for street collection permits be required to submit with the application, income and expenditure accounts for the previous financial year of the charity for which the collection is being made and also for the company or organisation making the collection. This is to ensure that a substantial amount of the monies collected are used for charitable purposes.
10. A copy of the accounts submitted have been forward to Committee members and interested parties.
11. Copies of the application have been circulated to the West Midlands Police and the Director of the Urban Environment (Highways) and no objections were received from either of the agencies.
12. This application falls within the Council's recent responsibility for licensing which has a direct link to the Council's key corporate priority that safety matters.

### **Finance**

13. There are no financial implications.

### **Law**


14. Street collection permits are governed by the Police, Factories etc (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1916.
15. Under this Act the Council has made regulations for street collections.
16. The Council has unfettered discretion to the granting of street collection permits and there are no statutory rights of appeal against the refusal of a street collection permit.

### **Equality Impact**

17. This report takes into account the Council's policy on equal opportunities.
18. There has been no consultation or involvement of children and young people in developing these proposals.

## **Recommendation**

19. That the Committee consider the application for the grant of a street collection permit in respect of Innerspace Concession Management Ltd.



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DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE RESOURCES

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## **List of Background Papers**