
REVIEW OF OUTDOOR MARKETS CALENDAR

Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor John Williams, Economy Portfolio
Responsible Director - Cliff Brown, Director of Community Services

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the number, range and type of markets held within the pedestrianised areas of the town centre.

Summary

2. A number of outdoor markets, additional to the traditional Monday and Saturday general markets have been recently piloted. These are detailed in the paragraph 5 of the Main Report.

Recommendation

3. It is recommended that the calendar is approved by Cabinet.

Reasons

4. The recommendations are supported by the following reasons:
 - (a) The recently launched Community Strategy, 'One Darlington: Perfectly Placed', demonstrates a strong commitment in its statement of "supporting independent traders and pursuing a viable future for Darlington's historic markets".
 - (b) The range and quality of these markets was a principal factor in Darlington being awarded national recognition as the UK, "Market of the Year (Special Attractions) Award 2008".

Cliff Brown
Director of Community Services

Peter Wilson :Markets Manager
Extension 2691

S17 Crime and Disorder	For general open markets, management of these matters is through the Markets Manager. For larger scale events this is supplemented by external agency staffs, as reported to and agreed with PESAG.
Health and Well Being	Particularly for the farmers markets, increased access to locally produced food.
Sustainability	Summary of reasons for granting planning permission to hold markets in Darlington, <i>'the application would allow the continued support, improvement and development of the weekly and themed markets in Darlington and ensure that open markets are sustainable and contribute to the town centre'</i> .
Diversity	The markets (being a concourse of buyers and sellers) are fully accessible to all
Wards Affected	Central Ward
Groups Affected	Market Traders, Town Centre Business.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not recommend a change to the Council's Budget or Policy Framework.
Key Decision	This is not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The report does refer to this Community Strategy and its support for the markets in Darlington.

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

5. A number of outdoor markets, additional to the traditional Monday and Saturday general markets have been recently piloted. Following their popularity and success, it is proposed to include these within the annual calendar, as shown below:
 - (a) Craft markets held on West Row every second Friday of each month
 - (b) Farmers market held on West Row every third Friday of each month
 - (c) French and Continental market held between Friday 2 and Monday 5 May
 - (d) Darlington Summer Market Spectacular held between Friday 15 and Monday 18 August
 - (e) Italian market held between Friday 19 and Monday 22 September
 - (f) French and Continental market held between Thursday 16 and Saturday 18 October
 - (g) Christingles Thursday 27 November and 4 December – these operate until 8.00 p.m. in support of late night shopping
 - (h) Darlington Winter Wonderland held between Thursday 11 and Monday 15 December

Outcome of Consultation

6. The schedule has been presented to both the Town Centre Forum and the Town Centre Board who agreed that the markets, some of which are supported by entertainment programmes, be approved for inclusion into the annual calendar. The membership of these includes the Town Centre Manager and the outdoor and indoor traders representative bodies, being NMTF and DMRSA respectively.