

A guide to street trading in Lewisham



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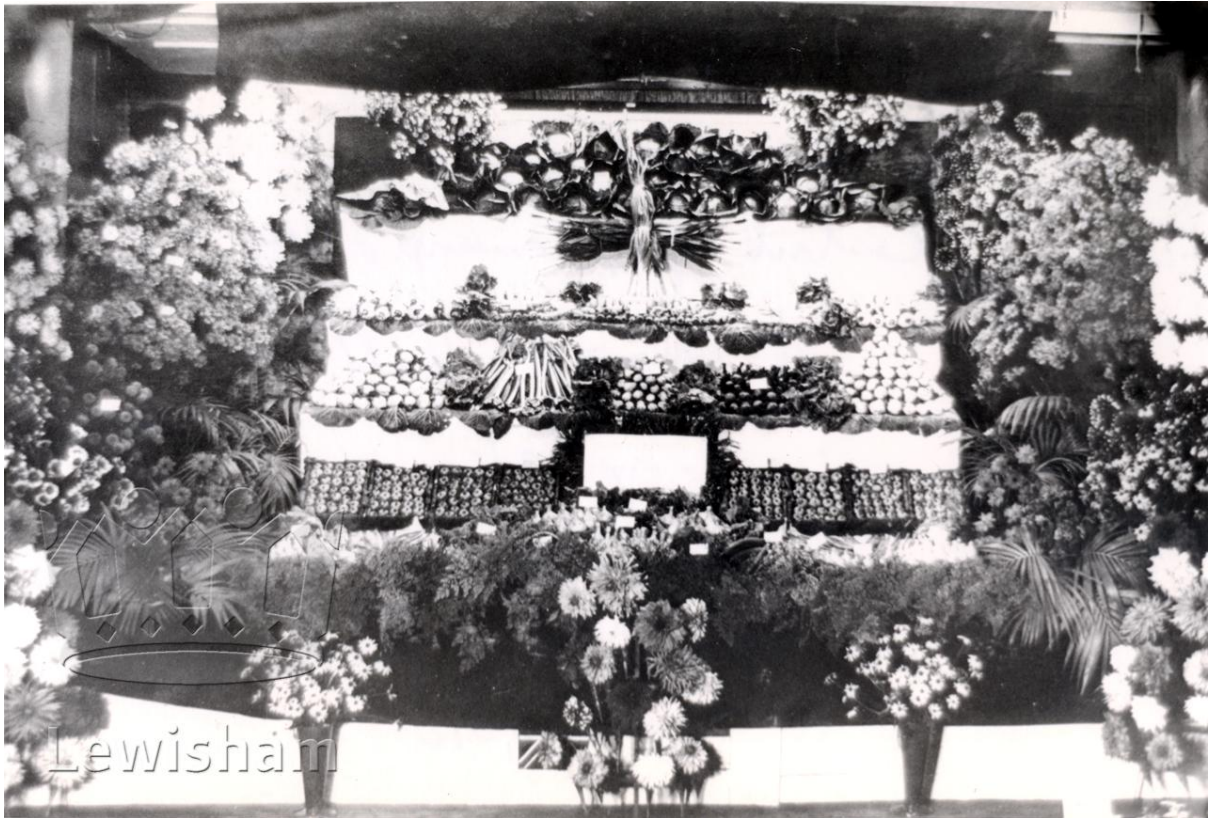


**Markets
Service**

2026-2027

1. An Introduction to Lewisham Markets Service

Markets and Street Trading have been an integral part of the Borough of Lewisham for over a century. Some of our market traders have held licences for more than half a century, with these being passed down along the generations. Much of these traders sell traditional goods such as fruit and vegetables or general goods.



Deptford High Street Flower and Fruit Stall, c. 1940 / Lewisham Archives.

More recently, many residents and visitors to the Borough are choosing to supplement their income by becoming a trader on a casual basis. These traders will typically choose to sell at the weekend. Casual licence holders also sell an array of goods; from candles and art to hot food and clothing. Some casual licence holders do not sell a physical product, but a service. Service-providers can also benefit from stalls due to the passing footfall and ability generate new leads from this.



Catford Broadway casual trader, 2026

Our fees remain affordable and accessible, and we welcome applications from residents and visitors from all walks of life.

There are two types of location that can be used for street trading in Lewisham

- A standalone pitch that has been designated for street trading
- A market-based pitch

We also offer pitches at Council-run events. These can sometimes take place on a Highway or on a pre-existing market.

2. Licencing you to sell on a market or street trading pitch

Casual Trading

Casual trading allows traders to use vacant pitches on a day-by-day basis.

Permanent licences will only be offered after a consecutive period of street trading within the Borough.

To apply for a casual trading licence, you need to register.

Registration Fee

- £14.80 (non-refundable)

Registration checklist

You must register with the Markets Service and provide the following. To help you, here is a checklist that you can tick off as you sort your paperwork:

Item	Reason	Circle the tick when complete
1 photo ID document	passport, UK photocard, driving licence	✓
1 proof of address document dated within the last 3 months	utility bill, bank statement, Council Tax bill	✓
proof of your national insurance number	national insurance card, HMRC letter	✓
your public liability insurance	this must have a minimum cover of £5 million	✓
proof of PAT tests	for any electrical equipment you need for trading	✓
gas safety certificate	for any gas equipment you need for trading	✓
your Level 2 Food Hygiene Certificate	if you run a food business	✓
picture, sketch or plan of the proposed layout		✓

If you do not send all the necessary supporting documents, we cannot process your application. Due to the high volume of applications we receive, we will not contact you about this. If you do not hear from us within 2 weeks of applying, it's because you submitted an incomplete application.

Register your food business

If you run a food business (including mobile street food) you must register it with our environmental health team before you apply for a market trader licence. This applies if you:

- prepare food
- sell food
- store food
- transport food to sell

Find out how to register your food business:

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/business/food-safety/food-business-registration>

3. What you need to sell on a market or street trading pitch

Your set-up

Traditional market stalls used to look like barrows, but today they come in all shapes.

This usually comprises of:

- an all-weather cover
- a surface to sell your goods on
- a trailer or vehicle with fitted kitchen (if you are selling hot food)
- lights (for the Winter)

If you are hoping to trade long-term, you may wish to invest in your own equipment. There are also websites where you can hire everything you need, relevant to what you are selling.

Your pitch

Each market has its own pitch restrictions. Size restrictions ensures that both traders and market users can operate efficiently and selling space is kept fair.

There are also legal restrictions based on the London Local Authority Act, which is the act that governs our markets.

Market	Pitch Size
Catford Broadway	3.05m × 3.05m
Deptford High Street	3.05m × 2.44m
Douglas Way	3.05m × 2.44m
Giffin Square	2.44m × 2.44m
LHS Front Row	2.13m × 3.66m
LHS Back Row	2.44m × 3.66m
LHS Sunday	3.05m × 3.05m

4. Trading locations – Markets

Lewisham is home to four lively street markets, each with its own character, customers and trading opportunities. All markets are well located near busy shopping areas and public transport links, making them easily accessible for traders and visitors

Lewisham High Street Market, Lewisham (LHS)



One of South-East London's main shopping destinations, Lewisham Market sits within a busy pedestrianised town centre with excellent rail, bus and DLR connections.

What You'll Find

- Fresh fruit and vegetables
- Household goods
- Fashion and accessories
- General merchandise

Trading Days

- Monday to Saturday: Traditional Street market
- Sunday: General market

LHS Trading Days	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Annual
Monday to Saturday	£24.22	£144.13	£624.57	£7,494.81
Sunday	£29.59		£128.25	
Clarendon Rise Daily Parking*	£21.40 per day			

Catford Broadway, Catford (CB)



Located beside Lewisham's civic centre, Catford Market benefits from high footfall and strong transport connections. The area is undergoing major regeneration, attracting growing numbers of visitors and businesses.

What You'll Find

- Everyday essentials
- Fashion
- Household goods
- Food traders
- General retail

Trading Days

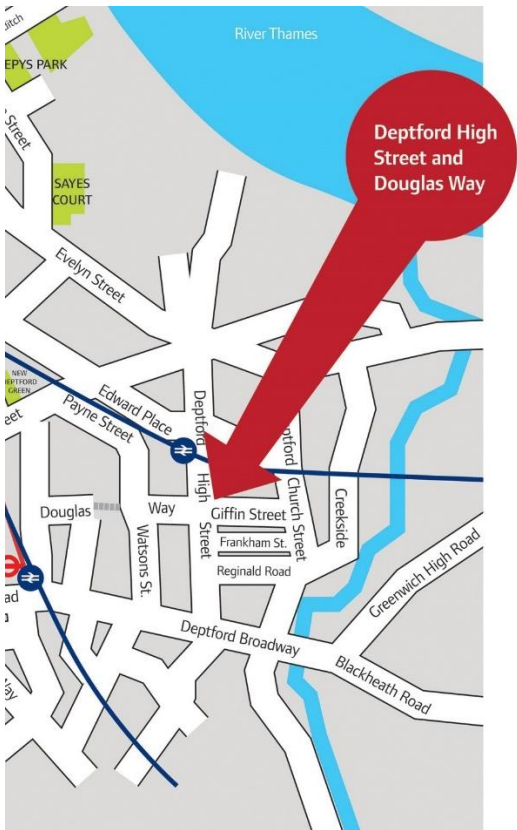
- Monday to Sunday

Trader Facilities

- Parking available at Canadian Avenue Lorry Park
- Vehicle access for loading/unloading only

CB Trading Days	Daily	Monthly	Annual
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Sunday	£18.17	£78.76	£945.01
Thursday & Friday	£19.99	£86.61	£1,039.21
Saturday	£17.55	£76.07	£913.00
Thomas Lane Yard Parking	£ per day		

Deptford High Street & Giffin Square, Deptford (DHS, GS)



A historic London street market and one of the capital’s busiest traditional markets. Deptford Market stretches along the High Street and into Giffin Square and Giffin Street.

What You’ll Find

- Multicultural food and products
- Fashion
- Homeware
- Vintage items
- Fresh produce
- Independent traders

Trading Days

- Wednesday
- Friday
- Saturday

DHS & GS TRADING DAYS	DAILY	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	ANNUAL
WEDNESDAY	£27.86		£120.71	£1,448.61
FRIDAY	£17.55		£76.07	£913.00
SATURDAY	£30.29		£131.24	£1,574.81
WEEKLY TRADING		£67.22	£291.30	
STALL STORAGE	£53.79			

Douglas Way, Deptford (DW)

Next to Deptford High Street, Douglas Way combines traditional market trading with second-hand goods and a growing food offer.

What You'll Find

- New and second-hand goods
- Street food
- Household products
- Fashion and accessories

Trading Days

- Monday to Saturday

DW TRADING DAYS	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	ANNUAL
MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY	£24.83	£107.59	£1,291.00
THURSDAY & FRIDAY	£17.55	£76.07	£913.00
SATURDAY	£30.29	£131.24	£1,574.81
WEEKLY TRADING	£64.80	£280.78	£3,369.40

5. Trading locations – Non-Market locations

We operate a handful of non-market street trading locations across the Borough. These are often-times located on high streets, near stations or leisure centres.

NON-MARKET PITCHES

VENNER SQUARE

Sydenham

QUEENSTHORPE SQUARE

Sydenham

If you would like to suggest and operate from a new street trading location, please email markets@lewisham.gov.uk and we'll check whether it is possible to trade from this location.

You might also be a resident or local group that would like to see a street trading provision offer in your local area.

In both of these instances, we welcome you to send an email.

Trading in parks

For locations within a park, you need to register your interest with Glendale, who manage green spaces within the Borough. They will release information about trading opportunities within parks as they come up. The Markets Service does not licence stalls within parks.

For more information on Glendale visit: www.lewisham.glendalelocal.co.uk or if you wish to run a park event or market, visit: <https://app1.apply4.com/eventapp/uk/lewisham>

6. Rules and restrictions

There are conditions that must be followed should you be accepted as a Casual or Permanent trader.

This forms part of the wider Terms and Conditions which can be found as a downloadable document at Lewisham.gov.uk/markets

Failure to comply with the Markets Service Terms & Conditions can lead to disciplinary action and in some cases, a termination of your trading licence.

Key conditions • Traders must regularly attend for at least three months before being considered for a permanent licence. • Vouchers must be purchased before trading days. • Pitches are allocated daily by the Markets Officer. • Traders must display their temporary licence clearly on the stall. • Only approved goods may be sold. • Traders must provide their own stall/frame and stay within pitch size limits. • All stalls must be ready for trading by market opening times. • Traders are responsible for keeping their pitch and surrounding area clean.	Restricted items The following items cannot be sold: • Tobacco or smoking accessories • Hunting/combat knives • Air weapons • Projectile-firing toys Some music DVDs and CDs may also be restricted.
Failure to follow market conditions, cooperate with officers, or comply with conduct standards may result in refusal to trade.	

7. I am ready to trade

If you are ready to make your application to become a casual trader in the Borough of Lewisham, we welcome you to download and fill in the application form. You can download the form at www.Lewisham.gov.uk/markets.

What happens after I submit my application?

We would like to make the application process as simple as possible. Below is an outline of the process from application to trading.

Please note that dependent on demand levels, timings may vary.

STEP	ACTION	OUTCOME
1	Applicant submits a casual trader application	Application reviewed by Markets Team
2	Successful applicants receive a physical offer letter	Applicant asked to confirm interest within 7 days
3	Applicant submits required supporting documents	Documents checked for compliance with chosen commodity
4	Introduction email sent	Includes market procedures and trading guidance
4A	Introduction meeting with Markets Team: Manager, Operations and Marketing	Get to know the Markets team who will be supporting you on your journey
5	Applicant contacts the office	Registration form completed over the phone
6	Registration fee and vouchers purchased	£14.80 registration fee plus any trading vouchers
7	Trader approved to start trading	Casual trading can commence

Helpful links

These links might help you in your journey to becoming a trader. Please explore them. You can also email the Markets Team on markets@lewisham.gov.uk if you have any questions about the process in general.

Due to time restrictions, we cannot answer questions about an ongoing application until the team has officially given you an outcome on your application.

SUPPORT FOR MARKET TRADERS ACROSS THE UK HTTPS://WWW.NMTF.CO.UK/
HOW TO REGISTER YOUR FOOD BUSINESS IN LEWISHAM LEWISHAM COUNCIL - FOOD BUSINESS REGISTRATION
LONDON LOCAL AUTHORITY ACT HTTPS://WWW.LEGISLATION.GOV.UK/UKLA/2007/2/SCHEDULE/3/ENACTED



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