

Charity Collections Policy

APPENDIX TO SUPPORT THE SUMMARY REPORT

Appendices A – B for the review of Charity Collections Policy report. The report and appendices are available to view on our [consultation webpage](#).

APRIL 2025



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APPENDIX A – SURVEY

A copy of the paper comment form is below; it is based on the online survey.



Charity Collections Policy Survey Comment Form

Please return this comment form by **11.59pm on Wednesday 26 March 2025** to Freepost SOUTH AND VALE CONSULTATIONS (no other address information or stamp is needed).

We are introducing a new joint policy for South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse districts related to charity collections.

The proposed policy is aimed at safeguarding donors and beneficiaries, ensuring fair access to collection opportunities and preventing unlicensed fundraising. It introduces key measures, including:

- A requirement for applicants to provide detailed supporting material about their charity.
- Restrictions on where collections can take place to prevent blanket district-wide collections.
- A minimum of 80 per cent of money donated during house-to-house collections to go to the charitable cause.
- A fairer allocation of dates for street collection.
- Clear grounds for refusing applications and licence revocations.

The policy includes two separate licences: house to house collections and street collections, the survey will distinguish between the two. You will also have the opportunity to comment on the full proposed policy.

You can view the full proposed Charity Collections Policy on our website southandvale.gov.uk/CharityCollectionsConsultation

What are house to house and street collections?

Street collection – collections of cash on the street for charity, including sale of goods in the street for charity (e.g. bake sale). Does not cover persons collecting direct debit information for future regular donations.

House to House collection – collections made door to door for charitable purposes, including collections of money, 'charity bags' seeking donations of goods, direct debit collections made door to door, etc.

We invite you to share your views on the proposed new policy from **Wednesday 26 February until 11.59pm on Wednesday 26 March 2025**.

If you have any questions about this consultation or require it in an alternative format (for example large print, Braille, audio, Easy Read and alternative languages), please email licensing@southoxon.gov.uk and licensing.unit@whitehorsedc.gov.uk or call 01235 422556.

What happens next?

Once the consultation has closed, we will review and consider all the comments raised. A consultation summary report of the results will be produced and published on our website. This report will be shared with the Licensing Committees, who will make the final decision to adopt the policy or not.

Personal details?

If you are responding as a **charity collector or individual/member of the public**, we ask for the first part of your postcode, you are not required to provide your name or contact details. Any personal information you provide to the councils within your comments that could identify you, will not be published in the summary report.

If you are responding in your capacity as a **registered charity, business/organisation, council, councillor or council officer** we ask you to provide its name - the summary report will include this information.

The consultation includes equality questions at the end. All questions in this section are optional. All information is confidential and will only be used to help us monitor whether views differ across the community. Further information on data protection is available in our privacy statement: southoxon.gov.uk/jointheconversation or whitehorsedc.gov.uk/jointheconversation.

About you

Q1. Are you responding as:

- ☐ A registered charity
- ☐ A charity collector
- ☐ An individual/member of the public

- ☐ A business/organisation
- ☐ A district, county or town/parish councillor
- ☐ A district, county or town/parish officer
- ☐ Other (please specify below):

Q2. If you are responding on behalf of a charity, business/organisation or council what is its name?

Q3. So we can understand if we've reached everyone we need to, please tell us the first part of your postcode in the box below, e.g. OX10 1

House to House Collections

This section of the survey is in relation to House to House collections which includes collections made door to door for charitable purposes e.g. collections of money, 'charity bags' seeking donations of goods, direct debit collections made door to door, etc.

We are asking for your views on the key proposed inclusions to the policy below.

A requirement for applicants to provide detailed supporting material about their charity. Proposed policy wording:

All applications must include copies of promotional materials (e.g. leaflets) that are to be used during the collection, along with, where applicable, a copy of any collection bag that will be used for the collection of goods.

Restrictions on where collections can take place to prevent blanket district-wide collections. Proposed policy wording:

Applicants must specify where within the district they wish their collection to take place. Maps defining collection areas, which align with the council ward boundaries. Applications requesting licences covering the whole district will not be accepted, and applicants may apply for a maximum of three collection areas in any single application.

A minimum of 80 per cent of money donated during house-to-house collections to go to the charitable cause. Proposed policy wording:

Each application will be determined on merit, however, at least 80% of the total proceeds of the collection must be given to charitable, benevolent, or philanthropic

purposes. Donors have the right to expect that the vast majority of any money or goods donated shall be used to benefit the named cause, and therefore collections will not be authorised where the applicant does not specify that at least 80% of the gross collection proceeds are given to the charitable, benevolent, or philanthropic purpose. For example, if a clothing collection is carried out and goods to the value of £100 are collected, a minimum of £80 must be given to the charitable, benevolent, or philanthropic purpose specified on the application form.

**Set the grounds for which an application may be refused, or a licence revoked.
Proposed policy wording:**

The council may refuse to issue a licence, or revoke a licence that has been granted, where:

- The amount likely to be applied for charitable purposes as a result of the collection is inadequate in proportion to the value of the proceeds likely to be received*
- That remuneration received from the proceeds retained by any person is likely to be excessive*
- The applicant or holder of the licence is not a fit and proper person to hold a licence as a result of receiving a conviction for fraud, dishonesty, robbery, burglary, or offences relating to charitable collections*
- The applicant or holder of the licence fails to exercise due diligence with regard to collectors to ensure they are suitable persons to be acting as collectors*
- The applicant or holder of the licence refuses or neglects to furnish the council with such information as they have been reasonably requested to provide (such as a return form detailing proceeds and deductions relating to a previous collection).*

4. How far do you agree or disagree with the key proposed inclusions to the policy?

	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Not applicable
A requirement for applicants to provide detailed supporting material about their charity.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Restrictions on where collections can take place to prevent blanket district-wide collections.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Not applicable
A minimum of 80 per cent of money donated during house-to-house collections to go to the charitable cause.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Set the grounds for which an application may be refused, or a licence revoked.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q5. If you have any comments on the key proposed inclusions, please provide them below.

Street Collections

This section of the survey is in relation to Street Collections meaning the collection of money, or the sale of goods, for a charitable cause in any street or public place. This does not include persons collecting direct debit information for future regular donations.

We are asking for your views on the key proposed inclusions to the policy below.

Any one charity/group be allocated a maximum of four collections per year, to provide equal access to all who wish to collect. Proposed policy wording:

To allow for equal access to all who wish to collect, any one charity or group shall only be granted a maximum of four street collection permits per calendar year for each district. Additional applications in excess of four permits granted will be considered on a case by case basis.

Set the grounds for which an application may be refused.

The councils may refuse an application for the following reasons:

- *The application does not comply with the provisions of the street collection legislation and regulations*
- *The collection is considered not to be for charitable purposes*
- *To limit the number of collections taking place in any one area*
- *The sum allocated for expenses is considered to be too high*
- *Inaccurate or inadequate information has been provided on the application form.*
- *Return forms have not been provided from previously authorised applications.*

6. How far do you agree or disagree with the key proposed inclusions to the policy?

	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Not applicable
Any one charity/group be allocated a maximum of four collections per year, to provide equal access to all who wish to collect	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Set the grounds for which an application may be refused	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

7. If you have any comments on the key proposed inclusions, please provide them below.

Anything else?

8. If you have any other comments on the proposed Charity Collections Policy, please provide them below.

Our commitment to equal access for all

We are committed to making sure that residents have equal access to all council services. Please help us to keep track of how successfully we are achieving this by ticking the appropriate boxes below.

All questions are optional. All information is confidential and will only be used to help us monitor whether views differ across the community.

Q9. What is your sex?

- ☐ Female
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Q10. Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Prefer not to say

☐ No (please specify below)

Q11. How old are you?

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> 45-54 | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 16-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 55-64 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25-34 | <input type="checkbox"/> 65-74 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 35-44 | <input type="checkbox"/> 75+ | |

Q12. What is your ethnic group?

White

- ☐ English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish, British
- ☐ Irish
- ☐ Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- ☐ Roma
- ☐ Any other white background (you can specify below)

Asian or Asian British

- ☐ Indian
- ☐ Pakistani
- ☐ Bangladeshi
- ☐ Chinese
- ☐ Any other Asian background (you can specify below)

Black or Black British

- ☐ Caribbean
- ☐ African
- ☐ Any other black, black British, Caribbean or African background (you can specify below)

Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Groups

- ☐ White and Black Caribbean

- ☐ White and Black African
- ☐ White and Asian
- ☐ Any other mixed or multiple background (you can specify below)

Other Ethnic Group

- ☐ Arab
- ☐ Any other ethnic group (please specify below):

Q13. Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illness lasting or expecting to last 12 months or more?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No (skip to the end of the survey)
- ☐ Prefer not to say (skip to the end of the survey)

Q14. Do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry out day to day activities?

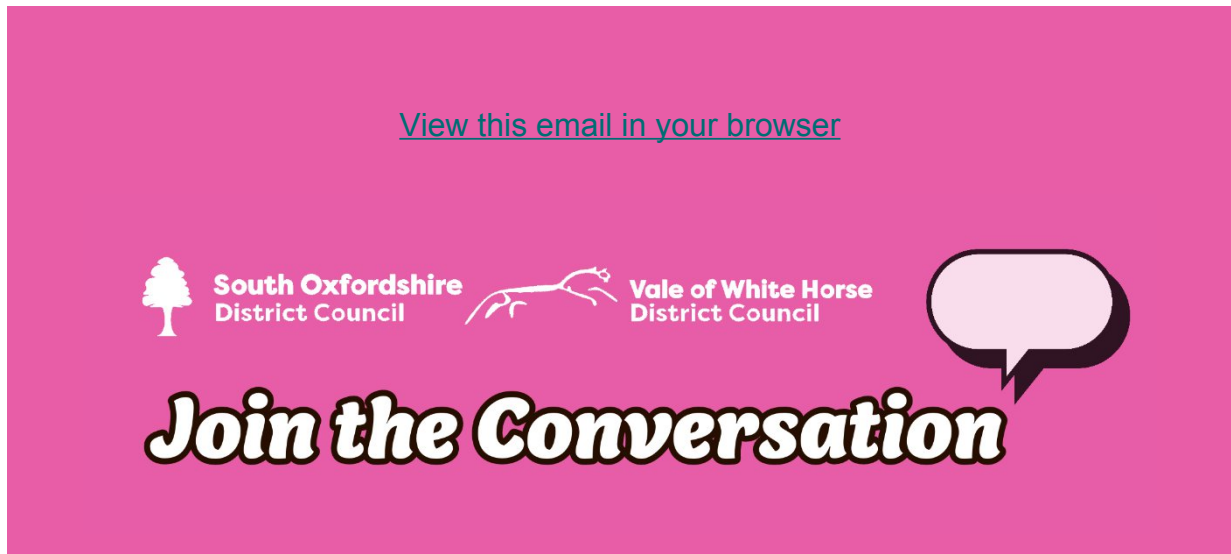
- ☐ Yes, a lot
- ☐ Yes, a little
- ☐ Not at all

How to send this form back to us

Please return this comment form by **11.59pm on Wednesday 26 March 2025** to **Freepost SOUTH AND VALE CONSULTATIONS** (no other address information or stamp is needed).

APPENDIX B – ENGAGEMENT COMMUNICATION

A copy of the email notification is provided below.



Have your say on our Charity Collections Policy

Dear <<First Name>>

We are introducing a new joint policy for South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse districts related to charity collections.

This policy is aimed at safeguarding donors and beneficiaries, ensuring fair access to collection opportunities and preventing unlicensed fundraising.

You can take part in the consultation from **Wednesday 26 February until 11.59pm on Wednesday 26 March 2025.**

Click on the link below to find out more information and to join the conversation!

Click here to join the conversation!

Please note, this is a unique survey link just for you and is connected to your email address. If you would like to forward this email to anybody else, please refer them to the [public link survey](#).



Listening Learning Leading



If you have any questions about the Charity Collections Policy consultation or you require it in an alternative format (for example large print, Braille, audio, Easy Read and alternative languages), please email licensing@southoxon.gov.uk and licensing.unit@whitehorsedc.gov.uk or call 01235 422556.

Data protection

Please view our Privacy Notice regarding how your personal data is used for this consultation, available on our websites: [South Oxfordshire webpage](#) and [Vale of White Horse webpage](#).

Want to unsubscribe or change your preferences?

Please click on the links below. Please note, we may still need to contact you for certain consultations if we have a legal obligation to do so. [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)