

2026 -2027

CRITERIA/GUIDELINES FOR ARTISTS/MAKERS AT ARTISAN MARKETS

To be issued to current stall holders and applicants.

All applicants wishing to trade at the Artisan Markets must complete the MS Forms application. The form link will only be accessible while the application period is open. Newry, Mourne and Down District Council reserves the right to reopen this application, and receive further applications, at any point during the year.

Our selection process is rigorous to ensure a high-quality range of authentic products with an emphasis on all that is local, ethical, and original.

When assessing applications, the following will be considered:

- 1 All products/work must be of original design and produced by the artist/maker (hand crafted).
- 2 All products must be locally made, original, unique, and high-quality items which are designed and created by the stall holder.
- 3 All artists/makers must be local i.e., operating within, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council or operating within a 30-mile radius of the market location, see point 1 below for further information.

To be accepted onto our trader list we will consider the following factors:

1. Trader location

We aim to promote artists/makers resident within Newry, Mourne and Down District Council or operating within a 30-mile radius of the market. However, artists/makers based in surrounding areas will be considered should their work be under-represented or of considerable quality and interest.

2. Variety

We will endeavour to restrict the number of stall holders selling the same product to two per market. Exceptions will be made if the core product differ from other traders.

3. Suitability of products

Priority will be given to professional or semi - professional designer/ makers creating items from raw materials.

This includes (as example only) artists and photographers creating original pieces of art and related prints, metal workers (including silversmiths) forming jewellery, home accessories and sculptures from unshaped metal, textile artists creating their own fabrics (including weavers, knitters, spinners and felt makers etc.), potters throwing clay, and woodworkers turning or carving blocks of wood.

No bought in or imported crafts, items created from kits or assembled are traded at our markets and will not be accepted. Pre-manufactured, mass-produced, imported or commercial products are not permitted to be sold at the market.

Food produce on sale is to be fresh and to be made in limited quantities by skilled craftspeople. The processing method is not exclusively mechanised and, where possible follows a traditional method. The produce is made in a micro-enterprise at a single location. The characteristic ingredient(s) used in the food are grown or produced locally, where seasonally available and practical.

The stall holder should only sell/cook produce grown, reared, shot, caught (or landed if fish) or secondary products brewed, pickled, baked, smoked or processed within the local area.

Providers to display their food hygiene certificate or rating at the market. Producers of craft/artisan alcohol produce must provide their licence.

4. Environmentally Sustainable Production

Shoppers expect products sold at an Artisan Market to be produced in ways which enhance the environment and respect animal welfare. Accordingly, stall holders should:

- 1 Produce food in ways that conserves the environment and respects animal welfare.
- 2 Ensure all meat products and products derived from animals, e.g., eggs, are free range wherever possible, whether sold fresh or as part of a processed product.

5. Product Knowledge

The most distinctive attraction of artisan markets is allowing shoppers to buy direct from the producer. Therefore, stall holders must:

- 1 Be involved in and/or knowledgeable about the production of everything they sell. No bought in produce purchased for re-sale may be sold.
- 2 They must be able to answer detailed questions about the produce/ingredients and their production/processing.

6. Prices

It is expected that products are priced reasonably and that both time and materials are accounted for, even if either come at no cost to you, and any deliberate undercutting of existing traders will not be acceptable.



7. Promotion of the Market

Traders should actively promote the artisan market on social media including tagging the market's social media accounts.

8. Public Liability Insurance

Your application will only be considered if you provide evidence that you are insured for third party public liability insurance (£1 million minimum).

9. Age of Applicant

Only adults (over the age of 18) will be considered when allocating pitches.

10. Payment for stall

£30.00 will be paid to the operator of the market on the day of the market, no shows may be liable for payment, depending on the reason.

11. Non-attendance

If you are allocated a stall and are unable to attend, you are required to give at least 48 hours' notice of non-attendance to ensure the stall can be filled by another provider.

12. Waiting list

You may be added to a waiting list if there is no availability of stall.

13. Weather

Occasionally, markets may need to be cancelled if weather conditions create an unsafe environment. We will aim to give traders as much notice as possible if a cancellation is required.

14. Trader Information

- A standard 3m x 3m gazebo is provided for all traders at the Newcastle, Warrenpoint and Downpatrick markets.
- A standard 6ft banqueting table is also provided for all traders at these markets.
- Traders should bring their own chairs to all markets

NB The decision of the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is final when allocating a stall at the Artisan Market.