

Stradbally Market Frequently Asked Questions



Where and when is the market?

In accordance with the Bye Laws, the market can take place between 10am to 5pm on Friday and Saturday during wintertime, and 10am to 6pm on Friday and Saturday during summertime of each week in The Market House, Stradbally or any other days and times with prior approval of Roads Department, Laois County Council.

Trading on Fridays will be limited to the Farmers Market food products. Other products as per Appendix A are permitted on Saturdays.

Currently the most popular day is the Farmer's Market which tends to start from 1pm on a Friday (to suit existing traders).

How can I apply for a stall?

Applicants can apply for either a permanent or seasonal spot in the market. Application forms are available from our website at www.laois.ie or can be requested by email on casualtrading@laoiscoco.ie or by phone to 057 – 8664000.

Do I have to sign a contract?

Yes. All traders must sign a licence in order to trade. There are no penalties for breaking a contract early but a minimum of 2 weeks' notice must be given to the Roads Department.

How much does a trading bay cost?

There are two fee categories. Category 1 – Food/Fruit & Veg costs €120 for annual licence. Category 2 – Craft or other items €60 for annual licence.

What is a Seasonal Trader?

Seasonal traders may be considered for trading bays in the market, if there is availability at the time of application. We give preference to products that are seasonally grown and have seasonal selling periods, such as fresh fruits and berries in the summer and Christmas themed products in the winter.

Is there anything not allowed to trade in the market?

Laois County Council Markets do not allow religious groups, charities, politicians or promotional events to have a stall, hand out leaflets or hold an event in the markets or in the vicinity of the market. It is also prohibited to sell alcohol, cigarettes and counterfeit goods and other items at the discretion of the Council.

You must list the items you intend to sell on your application. Any deviation from that list should be notified to the Council for approval.

Will I be charged if absent from market for longer than 2 weeks?

Yes, UNLESS you are on sick leave or maternity leave. However, to ensure you are not charged you MUST have informed the Roads Department BEFORE you go on leave and then contact the Roads Department a minimum of 2 weeks before you wish to start back in market.

How long can I take for Maternity Leave or Sick Leave from market and will my space be kept?

Yes, your pitch/stall space is kept until your return. However, Sick Leave and Maternity Leave is only for 26 weeks/6 months, after this time if no contact made your pitch/stall space won't be kept any longer and you will have to reapply if you wish to return to the market.

What does "Food Producer" mean?

Food producers are traders that grow, catch, farm or make their own produce.

I am a Food Producer but not from County Laois. Can I still apply?

Artisan food products from surrounding counties will also be considered.

Do I need insurance?

Yes, traders cannot trade without valid market insurance and it is a requirement that Laois County Council and The Cosby Estate is specifically indemnified on the trader's policy. The insurance company providing your policy will be able to advise you on the best cover for your individual stall and product.

What if I decide not to trade for a full year? Can I get a refund of my licence fee?

A licence holder may surrender his/her licence to the Council at any time prior to the expiry of the licence period. A person who surrenders a licence may apply to obtain a refund of that portion of the licence fee equivalent to the unexpired term of the licence, subject to a maximum refund of 50% of the total fee. The issuing of a refund is at the discretion of the Council.