

A Code to help combat the sale of illegal goods at markets and car boot sales in Lincolnshire.

An initiative between Lincolnshire County Council, Lincolnshire Police, East and West Lindsey District Councils and the organisers of markets and car boot sales.



Contact Details

For more information about the Code of Practice, please visit our website:

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/marketcode

For consumers with civil complaints, contact **Consumer Direct**:



telephone: 08454 040506
www.consumerdirect.gov.uk

To report a breach of the Code of Practice, including the sale of illegal goods or age-restricted sales to underage children, contact **Trading Standards**:

telephone: 01522 782050
email: trading.standards@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Lincolnshire County Council
Trading Standards Service
County Offices, Lincoln LN1 1YL



Lincolnshire County Council Trading Standards Service
County Offices, Lincoln LN1 1YL

Recycle for Lincolnshire



Lincolnshire
COUNTY COUNCIL

Code of Practice for Markets and Car Boot Fairs

A guide for sellers





Under the Code, market and car boot sale organisers are required to:

- endeavour to prevent the supply of illegal goods and exclude all sellers
 - who sell illegal goods
 - who sell age-restricted goods to underage children
- provide copies of this leaflet to all sellers and have copies available for buyers on request
- ensure all staff are trained and understand the Code
- report any sellers of illegal goods or age-restricted goods to underage children to the Trading Standards Service

The term 'illegal goods' is used to describe the sale of:

- stolen goods
- falsely described items
- unsafe (dangerous) products
 - counterfeit goods such as CDs, DVDs, computer games, clothing etc
 - age restricted products such as tobacco, alcohol, knives or imitation firearms and BB Guns to children

The trade in illegal goods damages both consumers and businesses. Consumers may unwittingly purchase such goods and the livelihoods of local businesses and honest traders may be unfairly affected.

Our aim is to bring about a fair, equitable and safe trading environment in Lincolnshire which supports local businesses and provides a pleasant and enjoyable shopping experience for consumers.

Market Traders are operating in the course of a trade or business and as such are required to comply with all relevant consumer and criminal laws.

Car Boot Sales are a way for sellers to make some money while purchasers pick up a bargain. However, their popularity has meant that not all sellers are private individuals. Traders may also operate at sales and although most make it clear they are traders some do not and may masquerade as private sellers to avoid complying with the law.

A seller will be considered to be acting in the course of a business if they are regular sellers of a single product or sell products in quantities which it is deemed unreasonable a private individual would sell or duplicate items of the same product e.g. CDs and DVDs.

Traders who attend car boot sales must comply with all relevant laws.

What the Law Says...

Where goods (new or used) are bought from a trader, they must:

- match their description
- be of satisfactory quality
- be fit for their intended purpose

Where goods are bought from a private seller they must be accurately described.

Penalties for offences may include:

- imprisonment (up to 10 years for some offences)
- fines (unlimited for some offences)
- forfeiture of the illegal goods
- seizure of money and property which are the proceeds of crime (confiscation orders may include residential property and motor vehicles)

Trading Standards Enforcement Officers and officers from other agencies regularly carry out checks at markets and car boot sales to ensure compliance with the law.

