

## Informal Trading in Bulawayo

CivActs conducted a survey in Bulawayo among informal traders to understand the challenges that they faced. The survey followed community listening sessions in which traders identified access to municipal services in support of their livelihoods as a pressing challenge.

**67%**

stated that they were selling from **undesignated points**

**14%**  
were denied vending space

**28%**  
could not afford rentals

**25%**  
found there were no vending bays available

### Among the challenges vendors faced in accessing space:



**16%**  
were faced with authorities demanding exorbitant amounts for vending spaces



**40%**  
found that the application process was too complex



**10%**  
encountered demands for bribes by authorities

The majority of traders (40%) felt the process was complicated with no clarity on how the process was administered by Council.

## Are you aware of the Bulawayo City Council (Hawkers and Vendors) By-Laws of 2020?

### Here is what you need to know

7. An application for stall or table holders, hawkers or vendor's licence shall be made to the council, and shall— (a) be in the form prescribed in the Second Schedule;

(b) be accompanied by—

- (i) the appropriate fee;
- (ii) two recent identical passport size photos;
- (iii) a valid Medical Certificate of Health in the case of an applicant who wishes to sell food.

#### Land set aside for people's markets

8. The Council may set aside land or premises for the purpose of people's markets and may divide such land or premises into separate stands, stalls or tables, as the case may be.

Application for bay, stall or table in a people's market.

9. (1) Any person wishing to use a bay, table or stall in a people's market shall apply to a designated officer for a licence.

(2) Upon application being made in terms of section (1), and on payment of appropriate fee which shall be fixed by council and reviewable annually, the designated officer shall allocate to the applicant a bay, stall or table, as the case may be and shall issue him with a licence which clearly defines the area of the bay, stall or table and state the name of the licence holder.

(3) A licence issued in terms of this section shall not be transferred by the person to whom it was issued to any other person(s) without the authority of council.

#### Vacation of bay, stall or table in a people's market

10. A person who has been allocated a bay, table or stall in a people's market shall vacate such a bay, stall or table promptly on the expiry of the licence unless he or she has made an application for further use of such a bay, stall or table and has paid the required fee before such expiry.

#### Application for stall or table holders, hawker's, vendor's or flea market employer's licence

11. An application for a hawker's employer's licence or a vendor's employer's licence or flea market vendor's licence shall be made to the council and shall—

- (a) be in the form prescribed in the Second Schedule;
- (b) be accompanied by the appropriate fee.

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