

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Collecting in public can be a great way to raise money and profile, if it's done properly.

- I. It is essential to obtain the relevant permissions and permits. In England and Wales the local authority and the Police will advise on the local procedures.
- II. Young people under the age of 16 are not allowed to collect in public

Try to make your collection something special. An isolated volunteer with a collecting tin will get bored, cold and tired very quickly. Two people collecting together (or within "hailing distance") will keep each other going. Fancy dress or a special attraction (a fairground organ or buskers, perhaps) will provide a focus, and draw the crowds.

Above all, make sure you have procedures in place to deal with the large volumes of coin you will have at the end of the day. Have help available to count the money, and put it in bags to take to the bank. You should have ready a supply of the correct bags for each type of coin, and it is wise to discuss with the bank how and when they would like to take delivery, especially if you expect to collect more than a couple of hundred pounds!