

# Invitation to Tender: Ice Cream Van Pitch Opportunity at Queens Park, Bolton

Lancashire Wildlife Trust invites experienced ice cream van operators from the North West and Manchester area to express interest in this exclusive opportunity to operate at Queens Park, Bolton. This is a prime chance to manage a pitch in a vibrant, high-footfall location, surrounded by family-friendly attractions and regular events.

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## About the Opportunity

### Location

Queens Park  
Chorley New Rd, Bolton BL1 4RU

### About Queens Park

Queens Park is a 22-acre public park and one of Bolton's main attractions, boasting:

- A well-maintained playground popular with families.
- Ornamental gardens, ponds, historical statues, and memorials.
- Sports facilities, including football pitches, basketball and tennis courts, and an outdoor gym.
- High foot traffic, especially on weekends and after school, with multiple schools nearby.
- Events such as funfairs, charity runs, and sporting activities on the large playing fields.

This park offers a dynamic environment and a unique opportunity for a mobile ice cream van to thrive.

### Pitch Details

- **Exclusivity:** Only one ice cream van is permitted on-site.
- **Locations** – there are two nominated pitch locations the van can operate from;
  - **Lower Park Pitch:** Near the main playground, football fields, and car park, close to the town centre.
  - **Upper Park Pitch:** Near the top car park, memorial statues, and nearby businesses.
- The park's café, run by a local charity, focuses on hot food and family events. It operates away from the van pitches and is open 9am–4pm.

We aim for you to be trading by **Easter 2025**.

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## What We Are Looking For

We seek a reliable operator with:

- A valid Bolton Street Traders Licence (a requirement that means you have a euro6 Van)
- Appropriate public liability insurance and relevant certifications.

The successful candidate will:

- Sell ice cream, slush, lollies, and cold drinks only.

- Ensure pricing aligns with the park café's rates and clearly display prices.
- Cater to dietary and religious requirements, offering inclusive options.
- Maintain a clean, well-presented, and well-maintained van.

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## Collaboration Expectations

The operator will work collaboratively with the park café (managed by a local charity) to enhance visitor experience, drive footfall, and support the park's role as a community asset.

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## Pitch Fee

We invite bids for a 12-month contract commencing in April 2025. Longer contracts may be available if a good relationship is developed over 2025.

- Similar pitches we lease fetch between £5 to £25K per year and we are expecting bids to fit in this range.
- Full pre-payment of the first 6 months will be required
- **Before bidding, we strongly recommend booking in with Edward and coming to site to discuss the pitch**
- Submissions need to be in by February 1<sup>st</sup>. and you will be forwarded a submission form to complete once you have spoken to us / met us on site.
- Pitch will be awarded by the end of February 2025

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## Application Process

**Step 1:** Express your interest by emailing [ebailey@lancswt.org.uk](mailto:ebailey@lancswt.org.uk) with:

- Your contact details.
- A short statement no more than 1000 words about your current catering business and why you're suited to this opportunity and why you would be a good match for our charity.

**Step 2:** An application form will be sent to suitable businesses once an initial meeting has taken place.





