

Report of the Head of Licensing and Registration

Report to the Licensing Committee

Date: 9 December 2014

Subject: Leeds Festival 2014 - Members Debrief

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Wetherby and Harewood		
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Access to information procedure rule number 10.4 (7) Appendix B		

Summary of main issues

The Leeds Festival is an annual event held over the August Bank Holiday weekend within the grounds of Bramham Park. The Festival is held under the authorisation of a premises licence issued under the Licensing Act 2003.

Recommendations

The Licensing Committee is required to note the contents of this report in respect of the debrief following the Leeds Festival 2014 held at Bramham Park.

1.0 Purpose of this Report

1.1 To provide Members with a report on the outcome of the Leeds Festival held between the 22nd and 24th August 2014.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 The premises licence for the Leeds Festival was considered and approved by the Members of the Licensing Committee on the 28 April 2006.

2.2 The licence granted to Mr. Benn is held for Bramham Park and authorises the sale by retail of alcohol, regulated entertainment and late night refreshment at specified times throughout the duration of the festival which takes place over the August Bank Holiday weekend.

2.3 The licence is also subject to the following conditions:

- 1) There shall be an event management plan which incorporates the operating schedule submitted to the licensing authority at least 6 months prior to the Festival each year.
- 2) The event management plan and any revisions to that plan must be approved by the licensing authority prior to the festival.
- 3) The Premises Licence Holder shall comply with the terms and requirements of the event management plan each year.

- 2.4 In addition the Committee reserved the right to determine how the event management plan for each year should be agreed with the facility for the final plan to be agreed by the Committee or officers under delegated authority.
- 2.5 Members were presented with a report on the 2014 festival arrangements at a meeting of the Licensing Committee held on the 12th August 2014.
- 2.6 Members resolved to give delegated authority to John Mulcahy, the Head of Licensing and Registration, to approve the final event management plan. This was duly approved on the 20th August 2013.
- 2.7 Members of the Licensing Committee undertook a tour of the site on the 20th August in the company of Mr Benn the festival organiser.

3.0 Main Issues

- 3.1 The car parks opened to the festival ticket holders on the Wednesday 20th August at 07:00hrs and access to the camp sites available from 09:45hrs.
- 3.2 Multi agency meetings were held on the following occasions:
- | | | |
|------------|-----------|----------|
| • Thursday | 21 August | 17:00hrs |
| • Friday | 22 August | 17:00hrs |
| • Saturday | 23 August | 00:15hrs |
| • Saturday | 23 August | 17:00hrs |
| • Sunday | 24 August | 17:00hrs |
- 3.3 At these meetings agencies brought various reports including details of medical, crime, fire noise, health & safety, licensing and traffic figures and these meetings also provided an opportunity for agencies to raise any matters requiring remedial attention.
- 3.4 At appendix A Members will find a post event report produced by the Environment Department which covers the involvement of both the Health and Safety team and Noise team throughout the event.
- 3.5 A multi- agency debrief was held on the 7 October 2013 and a summary of the outcome of the meeting is attached at appendix B.
- 3.6 It should be noted that appendix B is potentially exempt information under Access to information procedure rule 10.4 (7) as it includes information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

- 3.7 Members are asked to consider exclusion of the press and public from the hearing if these matters contained within appendix B are to be discussed.
- 3.8 The changes to the event management plan brought about post the 2013 event to factor in wet weather contingencies was not called on throughout the event. Although the memorandum of understanding between Festival Republic and the street cleansing team was utilised on the egress of day visitors to keep the highways free of dirt taken from the site.
- 3.9 Following the event communication was received from ward member, Councillor Castle who raised a number of matters on behalf of the residents of Thorner. This included a request to reinstate the speed indication device on Thorner Lane. This has been satisfactorily addressed by Festival Republic.
- 3.10 The same communication also raised problems associated with road surfacing works in Thorner, which was outside the control of Festival Republic. In addition residents had commented that they had not received any communication from Festival Republic setting out the contact details during the festival. It is believed that those residents affected had opted out of the public electoral register from where the postal details are obtained.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 The application for a premises licence considered in 2006 underwent the full consultation process including a newspaper advertisement and public notices displayed around the site, and full liaison with the Ward Members and responsible authorities. Mr Benn continues to consult with community representatives through the Parish Councils and local residents on all aspects of the impact of the event.

4.2 Equality and Diversity/Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 At the time of writing this report there were no implications for equality and diversity. Any decision taken by the Licensing Committee will be in accordance with the four licensing objectives as prescribed by the Licensing Act 2003.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 When determining applications under the Licensing Act 2003 the Licensing Authority must have regard to the relevant legislation, guidance issued by the Home Office, the council's own statement of licensing policy and any associated local area guidance.
- 4.3.2 Applicants are expected to have had consideration to the relevant policy and any local area guidance when completing their applications and the licensing authority will refer to the policy/local area guidance when making its decision.
- 4.3.3 The licensing regimes contribute to the following outcomes as set out in the Best Council Plan 2013-17:

- Improve the quality of life for our residents, particular those who are vulnerable or in poverty;
- Make it easier for people to do business with us; and
- Achieve the savings and efficiencies required to continue to deliver frontline services.

4.3.4 The application was granted in 2006 with regard to the Council's Licensing Act 2003 Statement of Licensing Policy, and the event will operate in accordance with the licensing objectives as set out in the current Statement of Licensing Policy 2014-2018.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

4.4.1 There are no resource implications to the licensing authority. The premises licence is subject to an annual maintenance fee as prescribed under the Licensing Act 2003.

4.5 Legal Implications

4.5.1 There are no legal implications known to the Council in terms of its responsibilities held under the Licensing Act 2003.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 The event is subject to a number of multi-agency meetings.

4.6.2 Any matters arising during the event having any implication on the premises licence and objectives of the Licensing Act will be brought back before the Licensing Committee.

5.0 Conclusions

5.1 Agencies and the licence holder are of the opinion that the event went well with a good working relationship between the Festival Republic staff and the responsible authorities.

5.2 A review of the Event Management Plan will be undertaken to identify any improvements for 2015. A summary of any changes will be brought before the Licensing Committee in due course.

6.0 Recommendations

6.1 The Licensing Committee is required to note the contents of this report in respect of the debrief following the Leeds Festival 2014 held at Bramham Park.

7.0 Background Papers

None

