

Report of the Head of Licensing and Registration

Report to the Licensing Committee

Date: 8 April 2015

Subject: Notification of First Draft Event Management Plan for Leeds Festival 2015

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
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: 10.4 (3 & 7)		
Appendix number: Appendix A		

Summary of main issues

- 1.0 The Leeds Festival is an annual event held within the grounds of Bramham Park on the August Bank Holiday Weekend, held under the authorisation of a premises licence issued under the Licensing Act 2003.
- 2.0 Members of the Licensing Committee and Ward Members of the surrounding area have been notified of the proposed changes.

Recommendations

- 3.0 Members are requested to note the summary of changes to the 2015 event and to note that a further report will be brought back before the Licensing Committee in August 2015 to inform Members of the final arrangements and agency comments.

1.0 Purpose of this Report

1.1 To advise Members of the arrangements for the 2015 Leeds Festival to be held at Bramham Park between the 25th and 27th August 2015.

1.2 To advise Members and the responsible authorities, that the promoter, Mr. Melvin Benn of Festival Republic Limited has provided a schedule of changes to be made to the 2015 event. A copy of the same may be found at Appendix A of this report. It should be noted that the contents of the Event Management Plan and the document containing the summary of changes are potentially exempt information under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3) and (7) as these include information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person and it may contain information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

1.3 Members are asked to consider exclusion of the press and public from the hearing if these matters contained within the summary of changes are to be discussed.

2.0 History of Premises

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

2.2 The Licence is held for Bramham Park and allows the Festival to take place every August Bank Holiday.

2.3 Members resolved to grant the application as requested and accepted the applicants offer to include the following additional three 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 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 final amended Event Management Plan for the Festival should be agreed with the facility for the final plan to be agreed by the Committee or officers under delegated authority.

2.5 A variation application to increase the capacity of the site from 69,999 to 89,999 implemented at 5,000 per year was made in December 2010. The application received no representations from responsible authorities or interested parties and was deemed granted on the 10 January 2011.

2.6 The variation was reported to Members at the Licensing Committee meeting on the 15 February 2011 where it was confirmed that the 5,000 a year increase would be agreed with the responsible authorities on an annual basis and become part of

the Event Management Plan, which in turn would be considered by the Licensing Committee prior to the start of the event. Members agreed to note the report.

- 2.7 Since 2011 each year the authorised capacity has increased by 5,000 persons and by 2014 the maximum capacity had increased to 89,999 persons but as in previous years ticket sales did not reach the maximum capacity.
- 2.8 Members of the Licensing Committee were provided with a de brief report from the 2014 Festival at their meeting in December 2014. The consensus between responsible authorities was that they were broadly satisfied with the running of the event. The main issues highlighted were the communication problems between the on- site noise team and the Environmental Health noise monitoring team, issues of speeding taxis through Thorner, the provision of a traffic speed warning device (speed camera with visual display board) in Thorner, and communication with residents prior to the start of the event.
- 2.9 A multi agency meeting was held on the 13th March last when these matters were discussed. With regards to the communication with residents, this was hindered due to residents opting out of the public electoral register. This year the promoter is to distribute resident's letters through the Parish Council.
- 2.10 Discussion took place concerning the communication problems between the noise monitoring teams and solutions have been identified but further dialogue is to take place to formalise the arrangements. Fuller details will be provided at the August Licensing Committee, together with details of any traffic calming measures for the village of Thorner.

3.0 Main Issues

- 3.1 The Summary of Changes from the 2014 event to the 2015 event was received in March 2015 and circulated to members of the Licensing Committee and Ward Members of the constituencies surrounding the event site.
- 3.2 Member's attention is drawn to the capacity of the site which increased to its maximum of 89,999 in 2014. Whilst the increase of 20,000 since 2010 has not been tested, consultation with the responsible authorities suggests that there would be no objection to this capacity provided that the site facilities and supporting infrastructures were adequate to support this. It is not anticipated that this capacity will be reached in 2015.
- 3.3 The first multi- agency meeting was held on the 13th March 2015 and will continue on a bi-monthly basis until the event.

4.0 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 The application for a premises licence considered in 2006 underwent the full 28 day consultation process including a newspaper advertisement and public notices displayed around the site for the required 28 day period 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 regime contribute to the following outcome:

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, Access to Information and Call In

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 planning of the 2015 event having an implication on the premises licence and objectives of the Licensing Act will be brought back before the Licensing Committee.

5.0 Conclusions

5.1 This report presents the summary of changes to the Leeds Festival 2015 Event Management Plan in accordance with the promoter's plans to identify and carry out improvements to the event year on year.

6.0 Recommendations

6.1 Members are requested to note the summary of changes to the 2015 event and to note that a further report will be brought back before the Licensing Committee in August 2015 to inform Members of the final arrangements and agency comments.

7.0 Appendices

7.1 Appendix A – Summary of Changes (Exempt information)

8.0 Background Papers

None