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# Report of the Head of Licensing and Registration

# **Report to the Licensing Committee**

Date: 20th May 2016

Subject: Notification of First Draft Event Management Plan for Leeds Festival 2016

Are specific electoral Wards affected?		☐ No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Wetherby and Harewood		
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	☐ Yes	⊠ No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	☐ Yes	⊠ No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?		☐ No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: 10.4 (3) Appendix number: Appendix A and B		

## **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 are engaged in the process and receive an annual update of any proposed changes to the Event Management Plan.

#### Recommendations

3.0 Members are requested to note the summary of changes to the 2016 event and to note that a further report will be brought back before the Licensing Committee in August 2016 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 2016 Leeds Festival to be held at Bramham Park between the 26<sup>th</sup> and 28th August 2016.
- 1.2 To advise Members, that the promoter, Mr. Melvin Benn of Festival Republic Limited has provided a schedule of changes to be made to the 2016 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) as these include information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person. 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 2015 Festival at their meeting in November 2015. The consensus between responsible authorities was that they were broadly satisfied with the running of the event. Attached at Appendix B are the reports submitted at the de-brief for Members information and are potentially exempt information under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3) as these include information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person. 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.

#### 3.0 Main Issues

3.1 The Summary of Changes from the 2015 event to the 2016 event was received in February 2016 and circulated to members of the Licensing Committee and Ward Members of the constituencies surrounding the event site.

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.

3.3 The first multi- agency meeting was held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2016 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 2016 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 2016 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 2016 event and to note that a further report will be brought back before the Licensing Committee in August 2016 to inform Members of the final arrangements and agency comments.

#### 7.0 Appendices

7.1 Appendix A – Summary of Changes, and Appendix B – debrief reports (Exempt information)

# 8.0 Background Papers

None