

Report of the Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration

Report to the Licensing Committee

Date: 6 December 2016

Subject: Leeds Festival 2016 - 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 (3 & 7)		
Appendix B		

Summary of main issues

1. 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

2. The Licensing Committee is required to note the contents of this report in respect of the de brief following the Leeds Festival 2016 held at Bramham Park.

1.0 Purpose of this Report

1.1 This report is to advise Members of the outcome of the Leeds Festival held between the 26th and 28th August 2016.

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 allows the festival to take place every August Bank Holiday weekend.

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 to the Event Management 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 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 Members were presented with a report on the 2016 Festival arrangements at a meeting of the Licensing Committee held on the 2nd August 2016.

2.6 Members resolved to give delegated authority to Mr. Mulcahy, the Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration, to approve the final Event Management Plan. This was duly approved on the 24th August 2016.

2.7 Members of the Licensing Committee undertook a tour of the site on the 24th August in the company of Mr. Benn the festival organiser.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 The car parks and campsites opened to the early bird ticket holders on Wednesday 24th August.

3.2 Multi agency meetings were held on the following occasions:

- Thursday 25 August 17:00hrs
- Friday 26 August 17:00hrs
- Saturday 27 August 00:15hrs
- Saturday 27 August 17:00hrs

- Sunday 28 August 17:00hrs

- 3.3 No agency concerns were raised at any of these meetings although as the weekend progressed, due to inclement weather the site was affected by wet and muddy conditions.
- 3.4 In particular on the Sunday evening and Monday morning this impacted on the traffic management and egress arrangements. Vehicles transferred mud from the site on to the surrounding roads although Festival Republic did have road cleaning provisions in place. Mud was also brought in to the City Centre by festival attendees using the public transport systems.
- 3.5 Post the event Entertainment Licensing received a number of complaints, summaries of which may be found at Appendix A of this report. These were passed to Festival Republic who has responded to the complainants direct.
- 3.6 De brief meetings were held on the 27 September 2016 where it was identified that certain elements of the event management plan are to be considered and reviewed for next year, primarily to improve the car parks and drop off areas and also provide contingencies for future occasions of inclement weather to mitigate mud from being transported on to the highways and city centre.
- 3.7 Festival Republic have provided a summary of the multi agency de brief meetings and the final figures including medical, noise complaints, crimes and evictions which may be found at appendix B.
- 3.8 It should be noted that the contents of appendix B is potentially exempt information under Access to Information Procedure Rules 10.4(3) as this includes information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person, and 10.4 (7), information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime as in all the circumstances of the matter the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information..
- 3.9 Mr. Benn will be in attendance at the meeting to address any questions from members.

4.0 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 The application for the premises licence in 2006 was subject to the statutory consultation process involving a newspaper advertisement and public notices displayed around the site for 28 days. Full liaison was held with the Ward Members and responsible authorities. Festival Republic continues to liaise with community representatives through the Parish Councils and local residents.

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 Priorities and Best Council Plan

4.3.1 The licensing regime contributes to the following Best Council Plan 2015-20 outcomes:

- Improve the quality of life for our residents, particularly for those who are vulnerable or in poverty;
- Be safe and feel safe
- Make it easier for people to do business with us.

4.3.2 The licensing regime is linked to the Best Council Plan objectives:

- Supporting communities and tackling poverty, and
- Becoming a more efficient and enterprising council
- Promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth
- Building a child friendly city

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 Licence Holder supplies an Event Management Plan that is distributed to all relevant agencies through the Council's Safety Advisory Group. The festival is subject to a number of multi-agency meetings before, during and after the event.

4.6.2 Any matters having an implication on the premises licence and the objectives of the Licensing Act will be referred to the Licensing Committee.

5.0 Conclusions

5.1 This report advises Members that the event went well and it is reported that there was a good working relationship between the festival organiser and the responsible authorities.

5.2 There will be a review of the event management plan to factor in wet weather contingencies and improvements to the car parks and drop off areas.

6.0 Recommendations

6.1 The Licensing Committee is required to note the contents of this report in respect of the de brief following the Leeds Festival 2016 held at Bramham Park.

7.0 Background Papers

None

