

Report of the Head of Licensing and Registration

Report to the Licensing Committee

Date: 3rd April 2017

Subject: Leeds Festival 2017 - Draft Event Management Plan

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) 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 have been furnished by the Licensing Department with copies of the summary of changes proposed for the 2017 event.

Recommendations

- 3.0 Members are requested to consider the summary of changes to the 2017 event and to note that a further report will be brought back before the Licensing Committee in August 2017 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 2017 Leeds Festival to be held at Bramham Park between the 26th and 28th August 2017.

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 2017 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 and in all the circumstances the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. 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.
- 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.

2.4 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.

2.5 Members of the Licensing Committee were provided with a de brief report from the 2016 Festival at their meeting in November 2016. The consensus between responsible authorities was that they were broadly satisfied with the running of the event.

2.6 The main issues in 2016 were delays in the egress from the site on the Sunday evening. Wet weather conditions had an impact on persons leaving the site on both public transport and via the car parks. Contributory factors were also poor lighting and signage creating confusion leading to and in the pick-up areas, and inadequate bus provisions which left many festival goers facing long delays in returning to Leeds City Centre. Furthermore there were issues with mud and discarded footwear in the city centre.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 The Summary of Changes for the 2017 event was received in February 2016 and circulated to members of the Licensing Committee and Ward Members of the constituencies surrounding the event site.

3.2 The summary of changes details minor amendments to the on- site infrastructure and personnel. However primary changes have been made in a revision of the traffic management plan to reflect the changing traffic patterns and on-site parking for pick up and drop off and improvements to taxi/private hire arrangements. The traffic management proposals have received favorable comments from West Yorkshire Police and Traffic/Transport Agencies. Proposals to deal with potential mud in the City Centre and discarded footwear have been added to the Event Management Plan. Mr. Benn will attend the meeting to present to proposed changes to the Event Management Plan and Traffic Management Plan for Members consideration.

3.3 Festival Republic hosted a meeting for the elected members and parish council's of the affected wards on the 16th March 2017, to present the new traffic management plan and seek feedback.

3.4 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 2017.

3.6 The first multi- agency meeting was held on the 21st February 2017 and meetings 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 2015-20:

- 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
- Be safe and feel safe

- 4.3.4 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

- 4.3.5 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 2017 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 2017 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 consider the summary of changes to the 2017 event and to note that a further report will be brought back before the Licensing Committee in August 2017 to inform Members of the final arrangements and agency comments.

7.0 Appendices

7.1 Appendix A – Summary of Changes and Appendix B – Traffic Management plan

8.0 Background Papers

None

