

Public Document Pack

LICENSING COMMITTEE

24TH JANUARY 2023

SUPPLEMENTARY PACK – AGENDA ITEM 7 LEEDS FESTIVAL DEBRIEF

Additional information in respect of Traffic and Public Health

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Leeds Festival Traffic Debrief

Background

- Leeds Festival took place on August bank holiday weekend Friday 26th - Sunday 28th August 2022. Traffic for this event started arriving on Wednesday 24th August at 12:00am.
- The festival was held at Bramham park which has been the home for this event for several years.

Traffic Management Plan

- The traffic management plan for Leeds Festival went well with the newly opened ELOR available just in time for the event.
- This facilitated the closure of York Road at the Red bus layby for the whole festival period with ELOR providing the natural diversion route whilst York Road was closed.
- This enabled us to have a consistent traffic management plan in place for the duration of the event rather than in previous years we have changed the traffic management when York Road was not closed for the event duration.
- Congestion levels at peak pick up and drop off times were not more than expected for an event of this size and we did not receive any complaints from residents or Ward Members.
- National Highways reported that egress on Sunday had been slower than expected and caused some queues on the A1/M. We will look at potential solutions here and work them through via the Leeds Festival Sub-Group meetings.
- It is also noted that communications for some residents could be improved with some issues involving the No7 bus at Aberford. We will look to address this through the regular Sub-Group meetings which are attended by Aberford parish council representatives.

Conclusion

- The traffic management for future events will follow the plan we used in 2022 with a full closure of York Road for the event duration.
- ELOR will have been open for just over a year by the time Leeds Festival 2023 returns and will still be used as the diversion route around York Road.
- Subtle changes to the overall traffic management plan for 2023 can be made and agreed through the Sub-Group Meetings.

Nick Gardiner

Senior Traffic Engineer

Leeds City Council

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Leeds Festival debrief paper – 24 January 2023

Prepared by: Daniel Burn, Health Improvement Principal (Drugs and Alcohol), Adults and Health Directorate

#LookOutForEachOther is a drug, alcohol and wider health & wellbeing festival campaign, developed by the Reading and Leeds Festival Advice and Campaigns Team (FACT) – a collaboration between Reading Borough Council, CGL (Reading), Thames Valley Police, Leeds City Council, Forward Leeds and Festival Republic. Chaired by Daniel Burn (Leeds City Council), members of the FACT have expertise in drugs and alcohol, welfare and safeguarding, marketing and communications, and events management.

The campaign was first used at the festival in 2021. Made up of 12 animations, the campaign aims to raise awareness of the issues above, to ensure festival goers have the best time they can, while remaining safe. The animations are shown on the stage screens, between acts, and promoted across the festival's social media channels. The FACT are currently in the process of reviewing the messaging for use at this year's festival.

In addition, since the 2021, Forward Leeds staff have worked at the festival, providing drug and alcohol advice and support to festival goers, with the festival now also running Ask for Angela in all of its bars.

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