

'Nest', - St Aidan's Nature Park

Noise Mitigation Plan

Version 1: Released 17th July 2023



Event Information	
Dates:	Monday 4 th – Saturday 9 th September
Location:	RSPB St Aidan's Nature Park, Astley Lane, Leeds, LS26 8AL

Author & Document Control			
Name	Version	Action	Date
Thomas Reilly	V1	Initial release	17/07/2023
	V1.1	Minor updates to Noise Mitigations, Planning on Page 8	17/07/2023

The Noise Mitigation plan sets out the methods that will be used by LEEDS 2023 to ensure that it promotes the licencing objective of 'prevention of nuisance' during performances of 'Nest' at St Aidan's nature park.

Leeds Culture Trust intend to appoint F1 Acoustics, specialist consultants in event sound control, to produce and deliver a Noise Management Plan for these performances. The details in this mitigation plan may be updated by the Noise Management plan once produced.

There are several types of mitigation that will be used for these performances,

- **Performance design** – layout of the event at the site and the content, format and timing of the performance,
- **Active noise Management** – including system design, choice and positing of speakers, use of cardioid speakers,
- **Noise monitoring and adjustment**, Propagation tests, setting maximum levels in advance and ensuring they are adhered to throughout performances. Residents phonenumber and response to measure sounds levels at different locations if concerns are raised.

Event brief

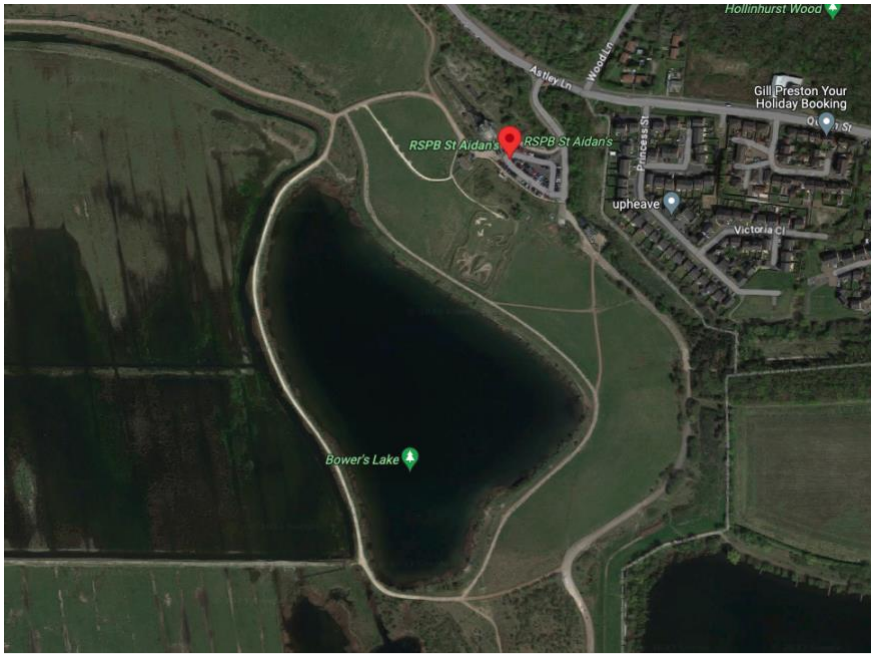
Nest is a co-production between LEEDS 2023 and National Youth Theatre. It is an immersive theatre experience that takes the audience on a journey through time to explore themes of climate change, migration and custodianship with the landscape.

The Play is staged as a promenade performance lasting approximately 2 hrs, with an audience of up to 500 people starting at the car park and walking around Bowers lake as one group, stopping at certain points for short performances. Meaning each location is only used for a short period of time (approximately 20mins each)

The performance will start at 7:30pm and finish approximately 9:30pm. Additional time has been allowed for in the operating schedule in case of any minor delays, e.g. a minor technical problem, audiences arriving late.

Details of the site, venue layout and noise mitigations can be found on the following pages.

Site background



St Aidan's Nature Park is located in Swillington, north Leeds.

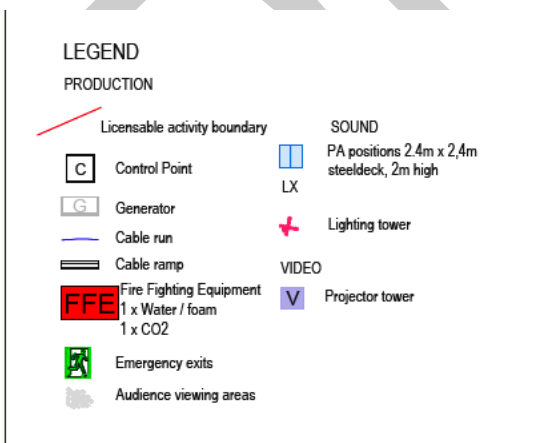
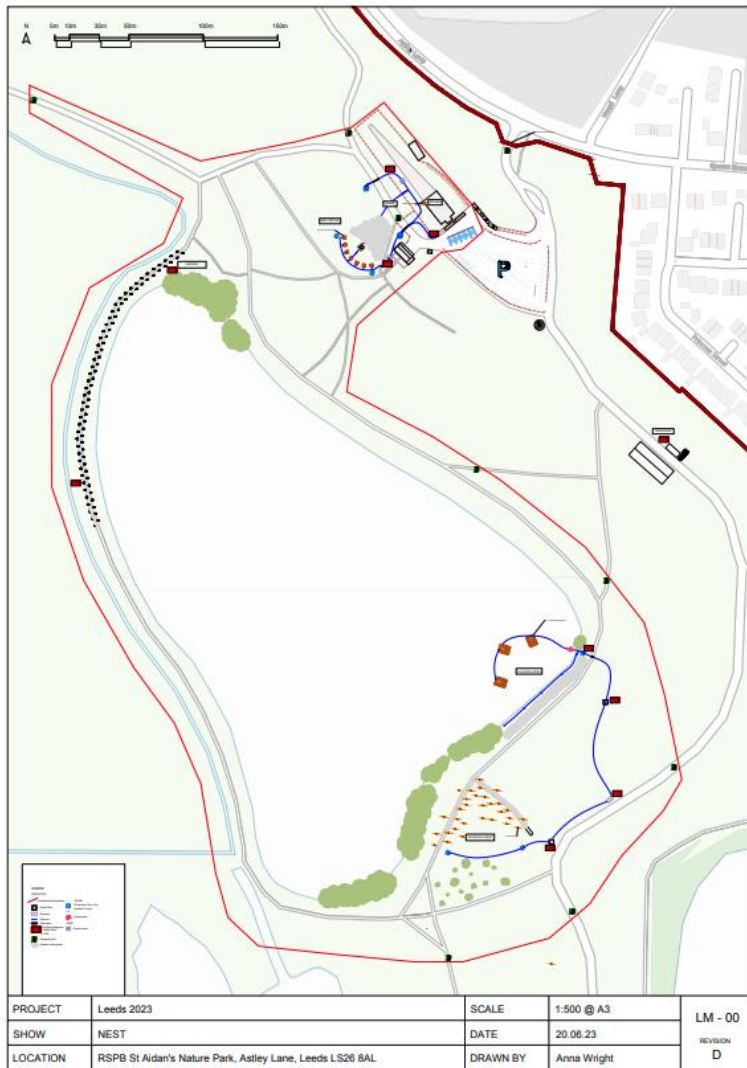
It is a nature reserve, with residential properties to the North East, wetlands and the river Aire to the South.

The nearest noise sensitive properties have been preliminarily identified as those on Princess street to the North East, noise readings will be taken near to these properties.



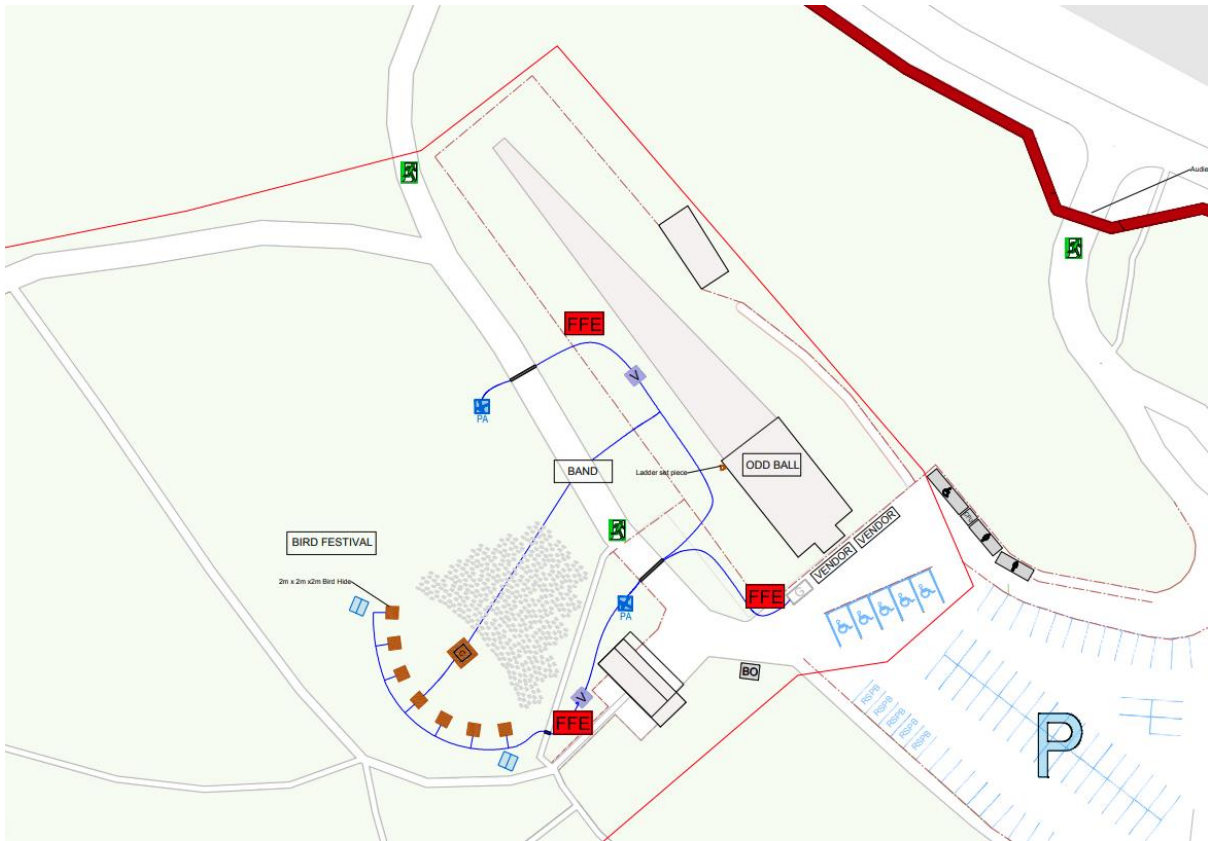
Site Layout

An overview of the site layout is below.



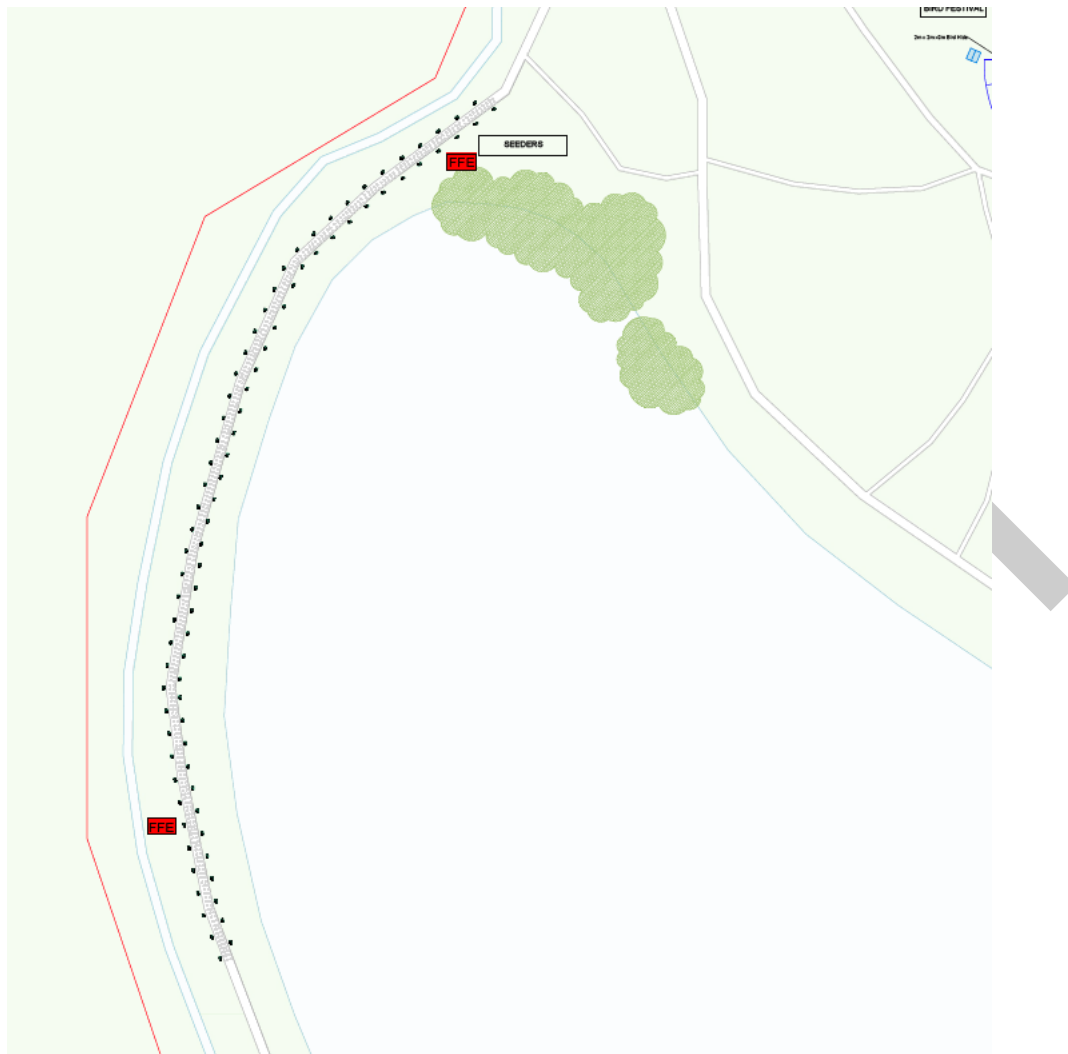
Further detail on each location can be found on the following pages.

Visitor Centre / OddBall



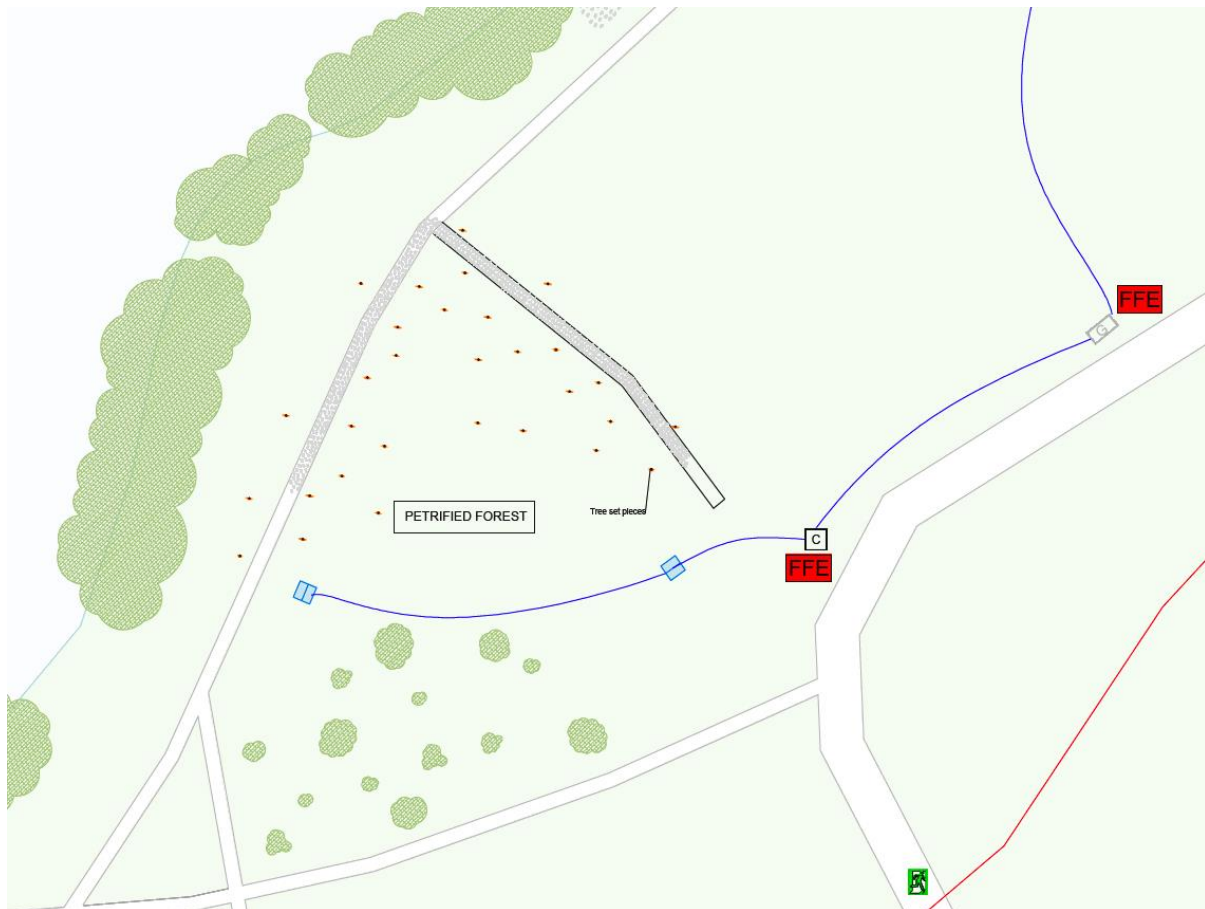
Timings	19:30 – 19:50 21:10 – 21:30
Description of activity	Audience congregates at the entrance point, show starts with focus on the oddball. Theatre scene performed around the oddball. Finale – audience return as a group to the oddball for the closing of the performance.
Amplified and live sound	Stage music and soundscape, microphones for dialogue.
Mitigations	<p>Site location –the area is a lower elevation than the neighbouring road / residential properties.</p> <p>System design – Cardioid sub speakers to limit Sub bass travelling to residential areas. Speakers flown above audience height and angled down to limit sound travelling outside of the performance area.</p> <p>Noise Monitoring – propagation tests to set maximum levels at Front of House position, FOH sound levels taken each day of performances.</p>

Seeders



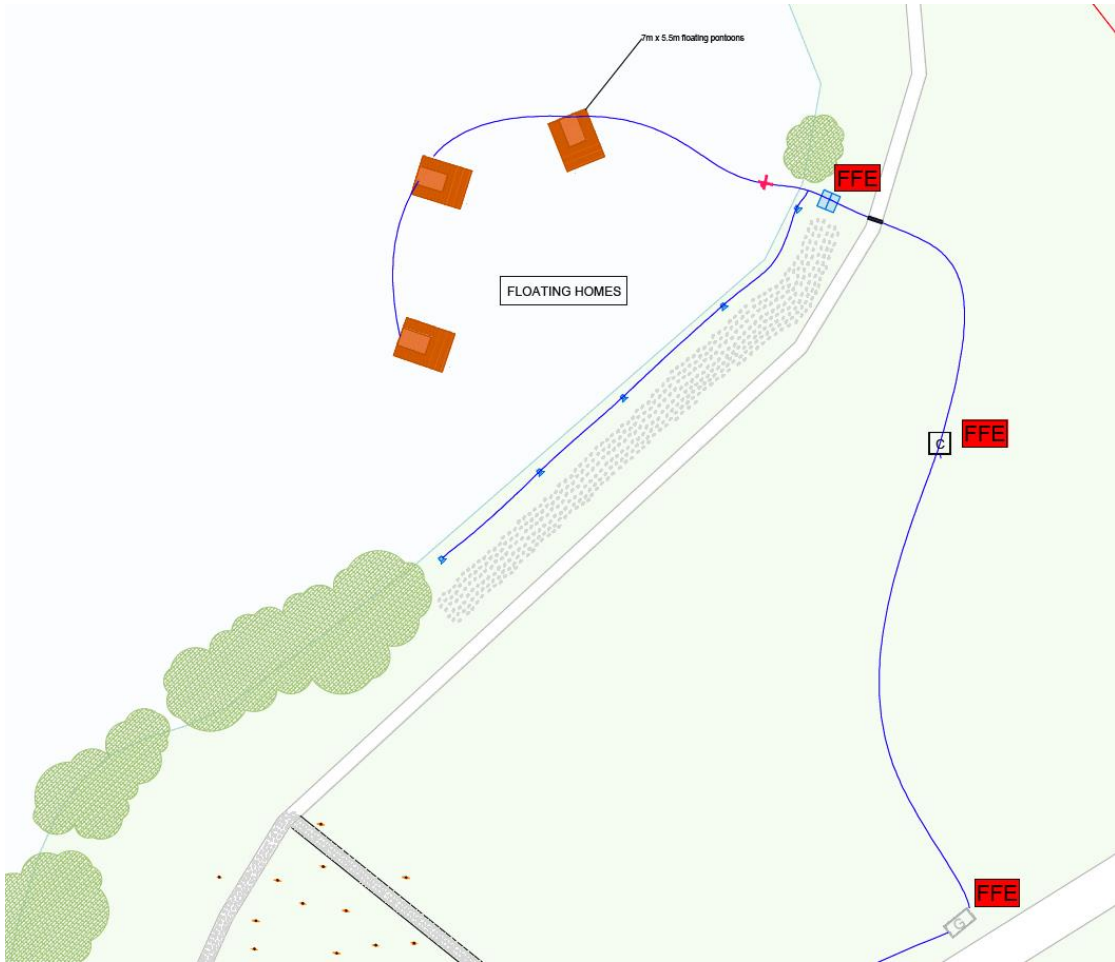
Timings	20:00 – 20:25
Description of activity	Audiences walk down the path, dialogue / vocal soundscape from cast as they walk down.
Amplified and live sound	Unamplified vocals from cast lining the path.
Mitigations	Unamplified sound – The cast vocals will not be amplified, the noise level is therefore expected to be very low.

Petrified Forest



Timings	20:25 – 20:45
Description of activity	Audiences surround the scenic tree installation, audience listen to soundscape of birds and rustling of leaves. Dialogue from performers.
Amplified and live sound	Soundscape of birds, rustling of leaves, soft speaking and whispers from the cast.
Mitigations	<p>System design – appropriate speakers used. They will be positioned and angled so that they are not directed towards neighbouring premises.</p> <p>Noise Monitoring – Sound level set in advance and readings taken FOH for each performance.</p>

Floating Homes



Timings	20:45 – 21:05
Description of activity	Scene performed on the bank, with floating homes lit as set.
Amplified and live sound	Soundscape and dialogue.
Mitigations	<p>System design – appropriate speakers used, positioned and angled so that they are not directed towards neighbouring premises.</p> <p>Noise Monitoring – Sound level set in advance and readings taken FOH for each performance.</p>

Noise Mitigations

Planning

- Site design to consider the implication of noise in terms loudspeaker system orientation.
- The Sound system design will be appropriate for the size of the event, the system's projected sound 'throw' will not exceed the identified limits of the event site. The subs in the sound system will be setup in a cardioid layout to limit the amount of sub bass travelling behind the stage to the east.
- Letter drops to take place around the venue with details of the performances and rehearsals times, as well as an email and phone number to contact us for questions, issues, concerns, complaints.

Before the event

- Loudspeaker system setup and tested in advance, with enough time for alterations to alignment, EQ, attenuation to ensure that any frequency imbalance to avoid low frequency tonality or modulation at noise sensitive buildings.
- During sound check, a level will be set at Front of House that sound engineer must keep to ensure the MNL at noise sensitive buildings is not exceeded.

During the Event

- Stewards surround the event site will pass any complaints onto the Event Management team.
- Resident phone line and email will be monitored to respond to any complaints.
- Complaint details to be logged with Event Management, including remedial action taken. Complaints will be responded to as soon as possible via phone or face to face where appropriate.
- Regular sound monitoring to take place on site to ensure dB(A) limit not exceeded.