

## Leeds Festival 2021

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Report of: Chief Officer Elections and Regulatory

Report to: Licensing Committee

Will the decision be open for call in?  Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?  Yes  No

### What is this report about?

- The Leeds Festival (the Festival) takes place each August Bank holiday at Bramham Park.
- The Festival is authorised under a Premises Licence (the Licence), granted under the Licensing Act 2003 issued by the Licensing Authority to Festival Republic Limited.
- The Licence is subject to a condition that the Event Management Plan and any revisions to the Event Management Plan must be approved by the Licensing Authority prior to the Festival.
- The licensing regime contributes to Best City Priorities 2020-25 (see the [latest version available here](#)):
  - Culture
  - Safe, Strong communities
  - Inclusive Growth

### Recommendations

It is recommended that the Licensing Committee delegate approval of the final Event Management Plan to the Chief Officer, Elections and Regulatory.

Members may consider it appropriate for the public to be excluded from part of the meeting to allow Mr Benn and attendees to provide Members with confidential information associated with the festival which fall under the 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.

## Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 The premises licence for Bramham Park is issued in perpetuity.
- 2 The premises licence is subject to an Event Management Plan (EMP) each year that must be approved by the Licensing Authority.
- 3 The EMP sets out all arrangements for the event which contribute to the licensing objectives:
  - The prevention of crime & disorder
  - The prevention of public nuisance
  - Public safety
  - The prevention of children from harm
- 4 The EMP is an evolving document and presently in draft form. Appendix 1 sets out for Members information the contents of the current draft EMP.
- 5 Members will be provided information on the key changes to the EMP for 2021 which will include additional measures to be introduced following the work of the Safeguarding Sub-Group that was formed to address the concerns of the Licensing Committee following the receipt of the Senior Coroners Regulation 28 Report to Prevent Future Deaths.
- 6 Representing Festival Republic will be Mr Melvin Benn.
- 7 Also in attendance will be Dan Burn, Health Improvement Principal, who has co-ordinated the education campaign introduced for 2021, and representatives of the West Yorkshire Police.
- 8 Specific details in the EMP are yet to be finalised and the final version is not normally available until nearing the start of the event. Historically it is normal practice for Licensing Committee to delegate approval of the final EMP to the Chief Officer.
- 9 Chief Officer approval will be reserved until such time all agencies agree the final EMP.

## What impact will this proposal have?

**Wards Affected:** Wetherby & Harewood

Have ward members been consulted?

Yes  No

## What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 10 The original premises licence application approved in April 2006 was subject to the formal consultation process as prescribed by the Licensing Act 2003.
- 11 The EMP is accessible to all agencies of the Safety Advisory Group, which include the West Yorkshire Police, Fire & Rescue Service, Yorkshire Ambulance Service, Public Health, West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Highways England and LCC departments of

Highways, Environmental Services, Environmental Health, Health & Safety and Building Control.

- 12 Multi-agency meetings under the Safety Advisory Group process have been taking place since early this year in preparation for the 2021 festival.
- 13 Additional to the multi agency meetings are a number of sub-groups, one being the safeguarding-sub group involving representatives from Adults and Health, Children's Services, Health & Safety, West Yorkshire Police, Yorkshire Ambulance Service and Festival Republic through which new and enhanced safeguarding and wellbeing measures have been established for 2021.

### **What are the resource implications?**

- 14 No resource implications for the licensing authority have been identified.

### **What are the legal implications?**

- 15 Members may consider it appropriate for the public to be excluded from part of the meeting to allow Mr Benn and attendees to provide Members with confidential information associated with the festival which fall under the 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.
- 16 There is no scope for the Premises Licence to be amended, suspended, or revoked under the recommendations in this report. A copy of the premises licence providing the operating schedule, including the licensable activities and hours, is attached at Appendix 2.

### **What are the key risks and how are they being managed?**

- 17 There are no key risks identified.

### **Does this proposal support the council's 3 Key Pillars?**

Inclusive Growth     Health and Wellbeing     Climate Emergency

- 18 The Festival will bring benefits to the region supporting the city's economic recovery from Covid-19. Attracting up to 89,999 attendees some of whom will visit the City's hospitality and retail sector, stay in accommodation, and use public transport. For many it will be their first experience of Leeds and they may return later to enjoy the City.
- 19 A range of welfare services are available throughout the site provided by several voluntary/social care agencies.
- 20 Festival Republic provide recycling, composting and salvage operations and work with Leeds City Council to set a recycling target. Recycling facilities are provided around the site and whilst attendees are encouraged to take home their camping equipment, they may

leave items at the designated recycling points where items are sorted and donated to good cause. On demand auto stop water bottle fill points have been introduced to the main arena for 2021.

- 21 The traffic management plan includes a shuttle bus service which frequently runs between Leeds City Centre and the festival site with additional services during times of peak demand. Festival Republic are also proposing a service to serve the North of the City.

### **Options, timescales and measuring success**

- 22 Multi-agency meetings will continue until and throughout the duration of the festival. One such meeting is held on the Friday evening following the first show day which provides for any matters to be addressed for the subsequent days.

- 23 Following the festival a debrief meeting will be held to inform the Event Management Plan for next year.

### **Appendices**

- 24 Appendix 1 – Event Management Plan content
- 25 Appendix 2 – Premises Licence

### **Background papers**

- 26 None