

Leeds Festival 2022

Date: 9th August 2022

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 and issued by the Licensing Authority to Festival Republic Limited (“Festival Republic”).
- 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 of Festival Republic and other attendees to provide Members with confidential information associated with the Festival which falls under the Access to Information Procedure Rules 10.4(3), as it includes information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person or organisation; and 10.4 (7), information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime and in each case 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 condition that an Event Management Plan (“EMP”) must be approved by the Licensing Authority in any year in which the Festival is held.
- 3 The EMP sets out all arrangements for the event which contribute to the licensing objectives:
 - The prevention of crime and disorder;
 - The prevention of public nuisance;
 - Public safety; and
 - The prevention of children from harm.
- 4 The EMP is an evolving document and is presently in draft form. Appendix 1 sets out for Members’ information the contents of the current draft EMP.
- 5 Members will be provided with information on the key changes to the EMP for 2022 which may include welfare arrangements, and outcomes from the locality meetings that have been taking place between Festival Republic, Ward and Parish representatives.
- 6 Representing Festival Republic will be Mr Melvin Benn.
- 7 Specific details in the EMP are yet to be finalised and the final version is not normally available until shortly before the start of the event. Historically, and for pragmatic reasons, it is normal practice for the Licensing Committee to delegate approval of the final EMP to the Chief Officer.
- 8 Chief Officer approval will be reserved until such time as all agencies confirm through the Safety Advisory Group process that they are satisfied with the final content of the 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?

- 9 The original premises licence application approved in April 2006 was subject to the formal consultation process as prescribed by the Licensing Act 2003.
- 10 The EMP is no longer held by the Licensing Authority, but is served by the Licence Holder through Resilience Direct, a secure platform accessible by all blue light and relevant services who are also members of the Leeds Safety Advisory Group, co-ordinated by the

Resilience & Emergencies Team. The services who have access to Resilience Direct include the West Yorkshire Police, West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service, Yorkshire Ambulance Service, Public Health, Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust, West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Security Industry Authority, Highways England and LCC departments of Highways, Environmental Services, Environmental Health, Health & Safety, Building Control and the Licensing Authority.

- 11 Multi-agency meetings under the Safety Advisory Group process have been taking place since early this year in preparation for the 2022 festival.

What are the resource implications?

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

What are the legal implications?

- 13 Members may consider it appropriate for the public to be excluded from part of the meeting to allow Mr Benn and other attendees to provide Members with confidential information associated with the Festival which fall under the Access to Information Procedure Rules 10.4(3) (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) and, in each case, in all the circumstances of the matter the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

- 14 The Licence is subject to the following condition:

“The Event Management Plan and any revisions to the Event Management Plan must be approved by the Licensing Authority prior to the Festival.”

In order for the Chief Officer’s approval to be valid, it is necessary for the Licensing Committee to delegate to him its authority to approve the EMP.

- 15 There is no scope for the Licence to be amended, suspended, or revoked under the recommendations in this report. A copy of the Licence details incorporating 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?

- 16 There are no key risks identified.

Does this proposal support the council’s 3 Key Pillars?

Inclusive Growth Health and Wellbeing Climate Emergency

- 17 The Festival will bring benefits to the region supporting the city’s economy and hi-lighting Leeds as a place to visit. 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.

- 18 A range of welfare services are available throughout the site provided by several voluntary/social care agencies.
- 19 Festival Republic provide recycling, composting and salvage operations and work within Leeds City Council recycling targets. 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.
- 20 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

- 21 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.
- 22 Following the Festival, a debrief meeting will be held to help inform the Event Management Plan for subsequent years.

Appendices

- 23 Appendix 1 – Event Management Plan Content
- 24 Appendix 2 – Premises Licence Details

Background papers

- 25 None