

Report of the Head of Licensing and Registration

Report to Licensing Committee

Date: 15th November 2011

Subject: DE-BRIEF REPORT TO MEMBERS FOLLOWING THE LEEDS FESTIVAL 2011 HELD AT BRAMHAM PARK

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Wetherby	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. This report informs Members of the matters arising from the Leeds Festival 2011, following the multi agency de-brief meetings held on the 29 September.
2. Responsible Authorities were satisfied with the pre event meetings and the Event Management Plan. No major issues were identified throughout the event.

Recommendations

3. That the Licensing Committee notes the content of this report and to take such steps it considers necessary for future events.

1.0 Purpose of this report

1.1 To present to Licensing Committee a de-brief of the Leeds Festival 2011 held at Bramham Park over the August Bank Holiday weekend.

2.0 Background information

2.1 The Premises Licence for the 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 weekend.

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 to the Event Management Plan 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.

2.4 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.

2.5 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.

2.6 The variation was reported to Members at the Licensing Committee meeting on the 15 February 2011 where it was confirmed that the 5,000 a year increase would be agreed with the responsible authorities on an annual basis and become part of the Event Management Plan, which in turn would be considered by the Licensing Committee prior to the start of the event.

2.7 Members agreed to note the report.

2.8 A copy of the current Premises Licence is attached at **Appendix 1** for Members information.

3.0 Main issues

3.1 The draft Event Management Plan for the 2011 Festival was received by the Licensing Authority and Responsible Authorities on 15 February 2011. As in

previous years a copy of the Summary of Changes from the 2010 event were circulated to Members of the Licensing Committee and Ward Members of the constituencies surrounding the event site.

- 3.2 To ensure the widest circulation of information the Leeds Festival management held meetings with the Parish/Town Councils in the areas surrounding the site and maintained regular contact with the same.
- 3.3 The first multi agency meeting was held on the 28 February 2011 and continued on a regular basis.
- 3.4 Members considered the final Event Management Plan at their meeting on the 16 August 2011. Members resolved that delegated authority be given to the Head of Licensing and Registration to approve the Event Management Plan and any minor amendments prior to the start of the event.

3.5 Festival Liaison

- 3.6 Throughout the duration of the festival multi agency meetings were co-ordinated between all agencies and the licence holder or his representative.
- 3.7 These meetings are called each day to give updates from Festival Republic and to report any issues identified requiring attention.

3.8 Multi Agency De-Brief

- 3.9 Multi agency de-briefs were held on the 29 September 2011. In general all agencies were satisfied with the running of the event. The comments from agencies were:

3.10 West Yorkshire Police

- West Yorkshire Police considered that this years event was a great success.
- Crime figures were the lowest for 5 years being 155 compared with 241 in 2010, against a background of national increases at festivals around the country.
- No issues with Traffic management.

3.11 West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue

- No major issues
- Awaiting a report from Midland Fire concerning a burger van fire.

3.12 Health & Safety

- Special effects used by an artiste provided at short notice. In future such information must be provided earlier.
- Reference to a buggy incident and requested in future that Health & Safety be advised as soon as possible so they may attend the incident site before it is cleared.

3.13 Building Control

- The site build went very well.
- The revised pit barrier worked very well and would hope to see this for future festivals.
- Reported of issues with the 'Relentless' structure. Will be requiring detailed and timely calculations for any future use of this structure.

3.14 Trading Standards

- The multi agency tout response operation was a great success with more notices issued than last year.
- Good working relationship with the bar operators on site.
- Five warning letters supplied to on-site traders in respect of counterfeit goods including clothing, hats, wallets, belts and accessories

3.15 Environment Noise

- 11 noise complaints received, compared to 22 in 2010.
- Some issues of audibility post 23:00hrs due to wind direction identified.
- Environment have requested a review of the calculations for the Piccadilly and Relentless stages for future events

3.16 Emergency Planning

- No issues to report.

3.17 Entertainment Licensing

- SIA (Security Industry Authority) badge checks were undertaken throughout the event and overall compliance was very good.
- Advice given that the badges should be worn on the upper body and not on belts or under clothing.
- An on-site alcoholic drinks promotion was identified which raised concerns and Festival Republic suspended the promotion. (To note that the promotion did not involve discounted drinks but the supply of alcohol from mobile vendors).
- Very good co-operation from Festival Republic during the run up and throughout the show.
- It was enquired whether Festival Republic were intending to increase the capacity to 80,000 for 2012 given that the 2011 event was not a sell out and the additional 5,000 capacity was not tested. It was confirmed that the infrastructure for the increase would be implemented and built into the 2012 Event Management Plan. All responsible authorities in attendance at the de-brief meeting were satisfied with the further increase for next year subject to discussions via the multi-agency process set to commence in February 2012.

3.18 Festival Republic

- Leeds Festival 2011 was a great success.
- Crime was at its lowest level since 2003 and arrests made were up to 27 in 2011 compared with 21 in 2010.
- The atmosphere in the campsites was very good with anti social behaviour significantly down on previous years and with security staff doing a good job.

- Numbers of patients reporting to the medical tent and being transferred to hospital were down.
- Noise complaints were down on 2010.
- The traffic plan worked well again with just some tweaks needed for next year to the exit plan on the Monday.
- The new pit barrier layout and the topography of the main stage viewing area worked very well and the revised layout of the arena entrance also improved the conditions for the main crowd movement at the end of the main entertainment.
- The multi agency tout response vehicle worked well offsite in disrupting the activities of touts selling on the highway.
- The working relationship with all agencies is exemplary. All in all, operationally, the festival was the best yet and subsequently there are no changes of significance planned for 2012.

4.0 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 There are no concerns as this is a post event de-brief to Members following to approval of the Event Management Plan on the 16 August 2011.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 There are no concerns for equality and diversity.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 When the application was considered in 2006 the Licensing Committee granted the Premises Licence having regard to the Licensing Act 2003 Statement of Licensing Policy.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

4.4.1 The licensing process, including the Licensing Committee, generates a cost to the council. The majority of these costs are covered by the application fee and in the case of this application by the annual maintenance fees.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 There are no concerns as this is a post event de-brief to Members following to approval of the Event Management Plan on the 16 August 2011.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 Full training and legal advice is provided to Members sitting on the Licensing Committee in order to mitigate the risk of legal challenge.

5.0 Conclusion

- 5.1 The 2011 Leeds Festival event held over the Bank Holiday weekend was considered by all agencies to be a success, with crime and disorder, public safety concerns and public nuisance complaint all decreased from previous years. The organiser, Festival Republic, considered the working relationship with all agencies to be exemplary and all in all, operationally, the festival was the best yet and subsequently there are no changes of significance planned for 2012.

6.0 Recommendations

- 6.1 That Licensing Committee note the content of this report.

7.0 Background Papers (available from the report author)

- 7.1 Leeds Festival Event Management Plan 2011

Appendices

- Appendix 1 Bramham Park Premises Licence