

Roye Chanel

From: Soraya Ad <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 31 July 2018 14:01
To: Licensing
Subject: Review of licensing arrangements - Finsbury Park music festivals (Wireless)

I have lived in the immediate proximity of Finsbury Park for over 30 years and grew up to the sounds of summer music festivals held in the park, further to this, I am not adverse to a well managed event that does not detrimentally impact upon residents.

That being said things have moved from a stage from where I experienced well coordinated events which finished at a sociable hour to one where public nuisance, crime and disorder and public safety are par for the course.

The detritus of drug paraphernalia, associated drug dealers, excessive littering, excessive noise pollution, large crowds of drug addled and alcohol fuelled people blocking roads and intimidating those attempting to circumvent them, troops of said people remaining on nearby streets late into the night, now reign supreme. The late night finish worsens these problems.

There has been a year on year worsening of the effects and it seems that promoters appear to have free reign when it comes to 'hosting' this event, I say this as the music and lyrics to various sets could be clearly heard almost a mile away on Manor Road, N16. Even with closed windows (in a heat filled home), everything was clearly audible to me and assisted in preventing my young daughter sleeping.

The impact of the event is felt for subsequent days with excessive litter and elements such as vomit, urine and excrement being found on nearby Hackney Roads. Added to this, trying to find somewhere patrons and their dealers haven't been is nigh on impossible with plastic wrapping and gas canisters adding to the 'colour' of our street scene. With regard to the prevention of harm to children, the frequency of these objects makes them attractive to my 4 year old who has attempted to pick them up whilst having to dodge fifth.

Whilst appreciating that the authority receives much needed income from these events, this should not come at the expense of the safety and well-being of those not attending. As such, I do feel it is time to move events such as these away from residential areas such as Finsbury Park as it is clear that the authority has not been able to get to a place where its effects can be managed.

Despite the many, many meetings the authority has held with promoters and ongoing assurances regarding noise dampening, clean up and management of anti-social patrons, the problems increase and there comes a time when the authority has to take control rather than placating a business model that does very little to improve these circumstances.

I do hope these representations will be taken into consideration.

Sincerely

Soraya Adesanu
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

31 JUL 2018

LICENSING ACT 2003 - REPRESENTATION FORM

To make a representation in respect of an application for a Premises Licence or Club Premises Certificate please complete the following form. For representations to be considered relevant they must relate to one or more of the four "Licensing Objectives" (listed below).

Please note all representations will be made available for applicants to view. If you make a representation objecting to the application it is likely that you will be called upon to attend a hearing and present your objection before a Licensing Committee.

Personal Details

Name...Michielsens Elisabeth.....

Address: [REDACTED]
.....
.....

Postcode... [REDACTED]

Licence application you wish to make a representation on

You do not need to answer all of the questions in this section, but please give as much information as you can:

Application Number...not available on public notice inviting public to review (Premises License). I phoned 020 8489 1335 and was advised that the number was not necessary, as long as the name/premises it applies to are clear.

Name of Licensee.....Live Nation (Music) UK Ltd / Wireless

Name of Premises (if applicable)...Finsbury Park.....

Premises Address (where the Licence will take effect).....
Seven Sisters Road.....
.....**Reason/s for representation**

*Under the Licensing Act 2003, for a representation to be relevant it must be one that is about the likely effect of the application on the promotion of the four licensing objectives. Any representations that are considered to be vexatious or frivolous will not be considered (please see Haringey Council's leaflet **Variations, Representations and Appeals for Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificates**).*

Fill in reason/s for your representation in the space provided under each Licensing Objective it relates to.

The Prevention of Crime and Disorder

This relates to both the weekend of the Liam Gallagher concert and the weekend of the Wireless concert in 2018. Several experiences provide evidence of the issues above: coming home from work between 10-11pm via Finsbury Park station (on Gallagher concert Saturday and Wireless Festival weekend) and Arsenal tube (on Wireless weekend) the stations and roads were filled with intoxicated and drugged up festival goers. The junction of Seven Sisters and Stroud Green road, and parts of Blackstock road and Gillespie Road were littered with bottles and with nitrous oxide canisters, suggesting its wide-spread use. I saw no police or security staff dealing with any of these issues when I walked home.

Public Safety

The Prevention of Public Nuisance

This relates to both the weekend of the Liam Gallagher concert and the weekend of the Wireless concert in 2018. I felt very unsafe exiting either tube stations and walking home (both from Finsbury Park and Arsenal). Because of the festival no buses are available. Festival goers were in large groups, shouting, drinking. The smell of urine was noticeable in Gillespie Road, suggesting people urinating in the street. I am used to football events and crowds in the area, but during the music events the area feels invaded in terms of sheer numbers and behaviour of visitors – this is unacceptable.

The mother of my flatmate left for home around 9-10pm on the Saturday evening of Wireless concert. She used Finsbury Park overground, and phoned my flatmate as she felt very unsafe standing on the platform waiting for the train, both because of the intoxicated / rowdy condition of the festival goers and the sheer amount of crowds. Several friends / family do not want to visit us during the festivals anymore because of the crowds / nuisance they experienced this year.

The sense of nuisance and insecurity / unsafety that people living in the area have does not relate to the end of concert time only – it starts during the mornings and continues deep into the night, as crowds are present in the streets continuously. Helicopter noise during the night increases the nuisance/noise.

I live a fair distance from the park (Gillespie Road is 0.4-0.5 mile from park) but the music is so loud that I can identify the actual songs. I cannot sit in my garden during the festival as the beat and noise is too disturbing.

As you may be aware, living on Gillespie Road, I am used to crowds frequenting football events at Emirates stadium. I have absolutely no problem with these, as it is managed well, and crowds are behaving. With football events I have no sense of unsafety. Noise is minimal. This shows me the music festivals that the park is used for are too big and too noisy for the build-up area that Finsbury Park is located in; as the comparison with football events – also crowded events - are manifest.

The Protection of Children from Harm

I, Elisabeth Michielsens, hereby declare that all information I have submitted is true and correct.

Signed: _____

Date: 31 July 2017

Please send completed form to:
Haringey Council Licensing Team
Alexandra House,
Level 6,
10 Station Road,
Wood Green
London, N22 7TR

31 JUL 2018

Comments on Events in Finsbury Park : summer 2018

These are based on my own experience, conversations and meetings with other residents and emails from residents. Most refers to the north segment of Wilberforce Road.

There is no doubt that the efforts to alleviate the nasty impacts on residents this year have been relatively successful. All agree that this year has been much improved over last year.

I was impressed by the efforts made by Festival Republic, our councillors (particularly Clare Potter), Hackney Council Officers, and Haringey Council Officers. Cllrs Potter and Selman, Bianca Rembrandt and Bruce Devile particularly deserve our thanks. The Police too were more effective this year and their flexibility made a big improvement. The mounted police had a considerable effect.

The issue of whether Finsbury Park is an appropriate venue for such events does need more discussion perhaps mediated by The Friends of Finsbury Park. Large events have a large impact on the area and the park itself. The number and concentration of events is another matter in need of discussion. This year events started 26th May and continued to 8th July. (Granted only two three day weekends were large [45,000 per day]).

Festival Republic have been very responsive. It is important, however, that other event promoters behave similarly. I would note that the events run by Slammin' Events (9,10 June) were less well managed by comparison (but being smaller had less impact).

The debriefing meetings with residents, Festival Republic, Haringey and Hackney worked well. They allowed some problems to be identified and corrected.

(1) Noise

The warm weather this year meant that windows were open and this perhaps made the general noise more intrusive than in some years.

Noise monitoring and control is a problem. Individuals vary in how it affects them (after all the paying customers expect to be blasted!). Wind and atmospheric conditions affect the sound at a particular point. And one's perception varies with the frequency. The orientation of a house can have a large effect, proximity of trees and buildings also, as can one's height in the house (ground, second floor etc.).

On Saturday 8th July we found it particularly bad. At peak times conversation was difficult. What we found bad a neighbour (whose house is orientated differently and on 2nd floor) found it painful and intolerable. Other neighbours close by barely noticed it!

Outside the event itself we tend to get the lower frequencies and rarely is it sensed as actual music – just noise. It is pervasive and continuous.

I have no doubt that the license-set sound levels were not exceeded. The question in my mind is whether these maximum levels are satisfactory for controlling the impact on the neighbourhood. The position and number of the monitors (4 I understand and at ground level) is inadequate. The firm monitoring the sound is employed by the promoters of the concert. It might be better if they were engaged directly by Haringey, Hackney and Islington.

Building vibration is of concern and needs monitoring. Structural engineers should be consulted on the possibility of real damage. We were told vibration is largely the crowd jumping up and down in unison during some performances.

A small worry peculiar to this area relates to the very large cast iron water pipes (3 to 4 ft diameter) that run in a diagonal from the corner of Blackstock and Seven Sisters' Road through Finsbury Park Road, Wilberforce Road, Somerfield Road, and Queen's Drive. These pipes date to the 1860s and are not deeply buried. Cast iron can be brittle (particularly when old). I think it very unlikely they would be damaged by vibration (after all they endure passing traffic) but it would be nice to know that experts have been consulted. A fracture would be devastating!

Apart from the noise inseparable from the concerts themselves there is the noise of the customers before and after events. People seem to use their (illegally) parked cars as a base for lounging about drinking/ballooning and playing music. Conversations and arguments late at night in the street wake us up.

(2) Pedestrian Traffic in the Area

Seven Sisters' Road and Stroud Green Road (probably Blackstock too) were often very busy from before the event into the evening. It was difficult to move about in places. The crowd outside the "Twelve Pins" pub was particularly dense and impenetrable. A neighbour with twins under a year old remarked on the impossibility of getting by with her perambulator (she appreciated rescue by event stewards!). A second crowd barrier to make a free path by the pub would help in the future (this is done to control match crowds).

A local primary school had a party of school children returning from an outing: the three teachers with them found it harrowing trying to keep track of the youngsters (none were lost!). In the future perhaps local schools could be alerted to this problem so they could send out more adults with school parties.

Crowd control at the end of events worked pretty well. Wilberforce Road had only light pedestrian traffic after events. This was probably as good as it could be. Event customers tended to accumulate at the intersections of Somerfield and Wilberforce: each corner had its heaps of exhausted youth mostly using mobiles. They sat on walls, curbs, cars and the ground. They were a nuisance but not a serious one.

(3) Congestion at Finsbury Park Station

At the moment Finsbury Park Station has only two entrance/exit points: the main Station Place one and the very small one past the bridges in Seven Sisters' Road. The third entrance (Wells Terrace) is closed while the City North development is being built. The station can become very congested. I had to

use it on both large event weekends. A one way system is used at times. The first time I struggled through the heaving crowds to Station Place only to be diverted to Seven Sisters'. Inside the station staff direct crowds by shouting and some hand-lettered signs.

The crowd barriers to the south of Station Place (approaching Seven Sisters'/Rock St junction) were badly positioned making it hard for people diverted from Station Place entrance to get to Seven Sisters. Better barrier placement and stewards were needed.

Congestion is inevitable and its management are very important. It would help residents to know in advance what hours the one-way system would operate to save time-wasting trips. A better way of marshaling people inside the station is needed. Better announcements using the loud speaker system and clearer signage would be a good idea. (After all they have to deal with crowds from the Emirates Stadium.) The station is old and not designed for the numbers it is asked to handle. TfL might invest more into making it better for large crowds! The station staff did a good job under very difficult circumstances.

(4) Car Traffic and Parking

The extended hours for the controlled parking zones were partly effective. This broke down on the Saturday and Sunday of the "Wireless" weekend. People simply parked! Some residents who had been out on the Sunday arrived back to find nowhere in G2 to park (and the G2 area is the smallest in Hackney). Tickets were issued although I was told that the parking attendants' ticketing machines ran out of battery they were used so much. Not only was there parking in resident only bays there was parking at corners and even on the angle of corners.

Parked cars were used as a base: people would park, go away, return and use car as a base for ballooning and drinking: often playing music very loudly and perhaps enjoying fast food. They would then go away again. One car in front of number 30 left empty boxes that had contained 96 "cream chargers"! Their eventual departure at night led to congestion and noise.

There was a considerable amount of taxi pick-ups in Wilberforce and Somerfield. They may not have been Uber but there are other firms. This too led to night noise and road congestion.

Perhaps in future large signs saying "Permit Parking Only in this Area" placed at the entry of this area (Somerfield/ Blackstock) might help? The statutory notices were all over and clear but ignored.

I know Festival Republic tell people not to bring cars but perhaps this advice could be emphasized-maybe printed on tickets?

(5) AntiSocial Behaviour and Nuisance

There was some drug taking and selling visible on event days but I saw nothing serious in the way of ASB. (2017 was very different when it was rife and frightening.) There was a worrying fight I heard about in Finsbury Park Road at around 2am on 8th July. Overall there was a great improvement in levels of ASB.

Urination was a problem and probably intractable. There is a very small window of opportunity to stop it: the miscreant's intentions must be clear before sphincters are relaxed. This made it very hard for stewards to stop it! It upsets people particularly when it happens on their property. Large signs saying "Piss Off" perhaps? I do not know what facilities are available at the actual event and outside it in the park. One can see large numbers of cubicle-type portable loos. Perhaps additional portable "pissoirs" might work? (I have seen such at country events.) They would be perceived by potential micturators as fast and convenient.

I did not see the roving cleanup unit in operation but it was nice knowing it was available.

Drug-taking and selling seemed to me to be at a relatively low level and I understand the Police made some arrests and their presence probably reduced it.

(6) Litter and Cleanup

Generally I thought litter was removed quickly and effectively in our area. Seven Sisters' and Blackstock were challenging with the crowds and probably less-well cleaned when busy.

I did notice that the section of Seven Sisters' pavement (south side) between Blackstock and Rock Street) was badly littered around 8:30am on event Saturdays. The lack of rain meant that the busy pavements have become really filthy: in places one sticks to them. This is not really an event matter but the environs of the Park would be more welcoming if the pavements were pressure washed before the events.

Litter accumulated badly behind crowd barriers at Finsbury Park Station.

Loitering and parking happened in the center section of Wilberforce Road. I noticed that the road was well littered on Monday morning. Perhaps the excellent cleaning we had in the north section could extend further south at future events?

(7) "Collateral Damage"

There seemed to have been some displacement of problems by the much improved security in the road segments closest to Seven Sisters' Road. Troubles were displaced into the center segment of Wilberforce and probably to center part of Finsbury Park Road. In future possibly security patrols might be extended south of Summerfield Rd perhaps less intensively. Illegal parking went away beyond the immediate area with the troubles of cars being used as social bases sometimes.

Ambler Road, Romilly Road, Prah Road also suffered troubles: heavy parking, some groups drinking, ballooning and drug taking. At finish time there was a lot of taxi traffic. Prah Road was closed as was St Thomas's and Ambler at Blackstock. There was a lot of congestion and horn tootling. (Observed by me around 11 to 11:15 on 6th July). The few Islington residents I know found the same things on other nights.

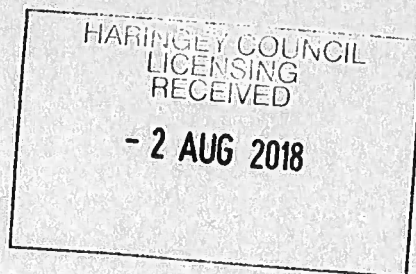
The effects of the events are clearly not just felt in Hackney. There seems to be a case for the involvement of Islington Council and residents in discussions about event management. I imagine some Haringey residents in the vicinity of the Park suffer as well.

(8) Stewards

The stewarding (both in quantity and quality) seemed to me to be a big improvement over 2017. It was nice to see them present! There were comments from residents that they were sometimes ineffectual. They have no legal authority and this knowledge inevitably diminishes their actions. That said I saw some who had the right personality and attitude to move difficult groups on. Sometimes the Police were summoned by the stewards. I think some of them might have been more proactive in warning illegal parkers that they would get a parking ticket.

Hugh White

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
13th July, 2



[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
31st July, 2018

Haringey Licensing Team
Level 1 – North – River Park House
225 High Road
Wood Green
London N22 8HQ

Dear Haringey Licensing Team,

Premises Licence Review : Live Nation/Festival Republic : Finsbury Park

I wish to make a representation to the Licensing Committee about the renewal of this licence. I have lived in the north section of Wilberforce Road (Hackney) since 1986.

Despite much increased investment in security by Festival Republic this year the events on 29/30 June/ 1st July , and 6/7/8 July gave rise to crime and disorder and public nuisance in the area. Residents do appreciate the efforts made by Festival Republic, Hackney and Haringey Councils and the Metropolitan Police to reduce the effect on those living near Finsbury Park. 2018 was much better than 2017 but not nearly good enough.

Objective 1: The prevention of crime and disorder

- (a) Events attracting up to 45,000 customers inevitably bring drug-taking, drinking, nitrous oxide taking and associated disorderly behavior that can be violent. Drug dealers and nitrous oxide sellers are attracted to the area.

These things, of course, happen at a low level all the time: we are near a transport hub and off a major road. Large events in the Park, however, greatly magnify these disorderly behaviours from something one sees perhaps once a week to being virtually continuous each event day from noon to midnight.

From our front window one could often see loitering groups of drug/nitrous oxide takers. One car illegally parked in front of our house on 7th July left quantities of nitrous oxide cylinders ("cream chargers") and empty boxes that contained 96 cylinders. This was just one car although a busy one.

- (b) When the events end large numbers of concert-goers create amiable disorder around the tube station, the main roads and to an extent in residential roads. It is difficult to move about. On two evenings I arrived at the tube station when things were ending. My walk home took at least twice the normal time and was far from pleasant.

- (c) Similarly crowds before the events make it almost impossible to move on the pavements of Seven Sisters' and Blackstock Roads.

Objective 3: The prevention of public nuisance

Public nuisance overlaps with crime and disorder but I would specifically note the following points.

- (a) Public urination is a feature of these events. It happens in front gardens, in/on dustbins and even in front doorways. Every resident will have instances of it. Solid deposits are not unknown but this year we were spared.
- (b) Noise is necessarily part of these events. How it affects a particular household is very variable as impact depends on weather, wind direction, property orientation, height in the property and adjacent sound reflecting buildings. The bass frequencies penetrate more. This year it was a continuous presence: annoying when windows were open in the good weather. Only once was it loud enough to impede conversation but it was always there.
- (c) After the events we have noise from the dispersing crowd, cars, and the Police helicopter. Sleep is impossible until well after midnight. This year crowds were stopped from entering Wilberforce Road at the north end. A real improvement but there were strays and some were moved to late merriment and shouting.

Hackney extended controlled parking hours for the event days. Despite frequent and clear notices there was a large amount of illegal parking particularly on Saturday and Sunday. Residents returning found themselves unable to find parking anywhere near and some were unable to park at all in the rather small G2 area. Parking tickets were issued but did not stop it. Some of these parked cars acted as bases for drug taking and nitrous oxide inhalation. At the end of the event all of these cars had to leave with noise and congestion exacerbated by taxi pickups.

- (d) Rubbish is a feature of these events. Generally the cleanup was quick and effective. There is still nuisance from it. Some seem to feel chucking it into front gardens or jamming it into hedges disposes of it! Residents of course must do the disposing.
- (e) Nearly 1/3 of the Park is removed from public use. This year parts were closed for 24 days. This counts as nuisance as routes through the park are no longer open. The smaller events (12-15,000) also held this year mean the period with barriers up is much greater.
- (f) Crowds around the Tube Station and in Seven Sisters' Road are a nuisance. It can be difficult for pedestrians to move about. The Tube Station is not really suitable for large crowds and traffic flow can be chaotic. Train delays could lead to unsafe levels of crowding.

The closure of Seven Sisters' Road and Stroud Green Road at closing time is a real nuisance for drivers and particularly for bus passengers.

Conclusions and Suggestions

My own feeling is that these events are too large and far too frequent for what is basically a residential area. They have heavy impacts on residents who are effectively under siege when the concerts are on. Attempts to alleviate the problems help but problems remain: the Park is really unsuited to these large events. They bring too much nuisance, disorder and crime.

If they are to be allowed to continue then I would like to suggest the following:

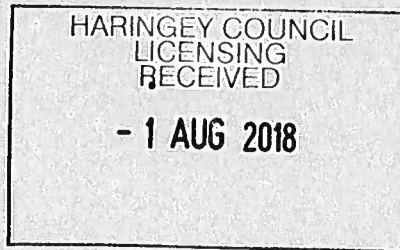
- reduce the number of large events to a single weekend (3 days)
 - ensure that there is no readmission to events*
 - introduce more effective noise monitoring
 - move the closing time on Sundays to 9:30pm
 - continue and enhance the security patrols used this year.
 - increase the level of policing further
 - further discourage bringing cars perhaps with a message on the tickets
- I have noted that groups of people seem to use their cars as a base. They park, loiter about, vanish presumably to the event, and then return to the car. This repeats. I suspect they are leaving the concert. The alternative is that they do not have tickets but are just attracted by the "buzz" of the event.

I hope the licence for these large events will be refused or seriously curtailed.

Yours faithfully,

H. A. White

*a copy has been sent
by email as well.*



Geraldine Timlin

31st July 2018

Haringey Borough Council
Licensing Dept.,
Level 1 North - River Park House,
225 High Road,
Wood Green, N22 8HQ.

The Business Licensing and Regulation Authority Haringey Council

To Whom it Concerns:

**Re: License Renewal Application, Live Nation/Festival Republic
Major Events Finsbury Park in 2019**

I wish to submit the following points for refusal of license application - Live Nation/Festival Republic for major events in 2019 in Finsbury Park. See below examples of breach of license as personally witnessed, or recorded at public meetings.

1. **Crime and disorder issues as follows:**

- a. **Drug-related crime:** escalation of drug dealing and drug use during and after Wireless Festival in 2017. I have witnessed drugs changing hands in the park and people in a collapsed state in the park during the two major-event festivals organised by Live Nation/Festival Republic: weekend of 9/10 June 2018. I have attended a number of public meetings organised by local Councillors and by the police addressing issues about drug-related crime in Finsbury Park N4 area and especially in Blackstock Triangle area. Police state they are aware of open drug dealing and drug use in the park and in our local streets. I have seen large flash cars parked in the streets near me with customers coming and going. The extent of drug dealing and using is visible in the discarded drug paraphernalia littering pavements and roads in Wilberforce Road, Finsbury Park Road, Alexandra Grove and Portland Rise. Drug-related crime in Finsbury Park N4 area has increased each year in direct correlation to the major events festivals as drug dealers have a ready-made market.

At the public meetings I have attended, police have stated that they are aware that the drug dealers deploy lookouts to alert them when police are in the area; the drug dealers' minders have weapons. At the drug-related crime meeting for Blackstock Triangle, which I attended, Chief Inspector Steve Burton admitted that police are unable to respond quickly enough to cope with the street-trading drug dealers' methods of evading detection and/or arrest – the dealers are always one step ahead of them. Local people and their children are at risk.

Police have reports from local residents who have been intimidated by drug users and dealers; the dealer are protected by minders with machetes and other weapons – the weapons discarded into people's gardens have been found in Wilberforce Road and in Finsbury Park Road in 2016 and 2017.

- b. Street crime such as phone-snatching and muggings have increased in the Finsbury Park area each year since 2015. Police statistics show that street crime in N4 has escalated in the past four years in direct correlation to the drug-dealing which is attendant on the crowds who come into the area for the Live Nation/Festival Republic major events in Finsbury Park.
- c. Disorder issues/public safety at risk due to loss of crowd control on 29th June 2018 :- when the Liam Gallagher concert finished on 29th June 2018 c 22.35 – 23.30, there was no crowd control in place and festival goers were allowed to stream down residential streets where I live (see attached Pic 1). I had to make my way through many in the crowd who were intoxicated, staggering and shouting; others using intimidating language. I watched as others urinated in people's gardens in Adolphus Road. I took photographs of men publicly urinating in the dark entrance area of the house opposite where I live (see attached Pic 2) .

On Saturday 30th June 2018, at the pre-arranged feedback meeting organised by Cllr Claire Potter (held at Azalea Court Community Hall), representatives from Live Nation/Festival Republic admitted that they had lost control of egress on the night of 29th June. Present at the meeting were:

Cllr Caroline Sellman (Woodberry Down Ward)
 2 Officers from Haringey Council;
 6 representatives from Live Nation/Festival Republic (including 3 security staff
 12 residents from various streets in the local area.

In respect of the many issues reported by locals, Live Nation/Festival Republic security representatives agreed that they had 'lost control of egress' and would do their best to rectify. However, and I quote:

- "When we've got the numbers we're dealing with here, there's only a certain amount we can do."

Quote:

- "This was an unfortunate deployment problem."

These 'unfortunate deployment problems' have repercussions on local residents, leaving us fearful in our own neighbourhoods. Live Nation/Festival Republic have shown that they are unable to manage the volume of people who are in the area for the events they run. Many local people state that they have been frightened to come out of their houses due to unruly crowds, drug users and the open drug dealing on the streets during the festivals including in 2017 & 2018.

2. Public nuisance (including above):

- a. Public urination and human excrement: on the Sunday morning during 2017 Wireless Festival I opened our front door to a swarm of flies, which rose up from a pile of human excreta on our doorstep (photographs available). During the festivals in 2015/2016/2017 and 2018 our local streets smell like open sewers because of people urinating in gardens and in the street. I have witnessed people (men) urinating in the streets near where I live and had to step over a stream of urine on Alexandra Grove; the perpetrators become aggressive when challenged.

On the night of 30th June 2018, I walked passed a man urinating publicly in Adolphus Road (see attached Pic 3), while a police car with two officers was parked less than 50 meters away. I took a photograph of the man urinating (see photograph 1 attached) and then pointed out the offender (still in mid-micturition) to one of the officers but I saw no police action.

- b. Noise Nuisance: I am unable to enjoy my own home due to noise disturbance from major events music festivals which use amplification to reach the crowds of 45,000 (I have video evidence of this which I can supply). When at home, I have to keep my windows and doors shut to keep out the noise, and in summer weather this is stiflingly hot. Even more distressing is the deep, low-

frequency sub-bass vibrations, which make the building shake. The sound is very penetrating. This year (2018) I rang the noise line published by Haringey Council 7 times on 30th June – 020 8489 1335 to report but could not get through..

Due to the noise levels during 'Wireless', I am forced to turn up the volume if I am watching TV; in the daytime I have had to turn up the radio. I cannot use my small area of outdoor space due to the noise from the music and the performers shouting over the massive PA systems. Crowd noise from 45,000 fans shouting responses to the performers and jumping up and down makes it impossible to enjoy my own home.

Helicopter noise prevents sleep after the music finishes. Helicopters circle the area for up to two hours afterwards; police and emergency sirens are blaring in the streets around meaning that sleep is impossible sometimes until 2am.

During the major events festival weekends, there are days when I have been forced to abandon my home due to the distressing impact of the noise – especially during 'Wireless' which uses a low-frequency, sub-bass; cranked up further: a signature of this genre of music.

I and many of my neighbours try to escape from the area during the 'festival season'. I'd really like to go away each time a weekend festival brings its negative impact from the noise, the smelly, litter-strewn streets, the numbers of drugged/intoxicated festival goers - some lying on the pavements; I'd like to escape from the wall of sound that penetrates my home; I'd like to escape from the constant sirens; I'd like to escape having to battle through a tsunami of people in the streets; I'd like to escape from the sheer volume of 45,000 poorly-controlled and poorly managed people into my neighbourhood – but sadly I cannot afford to spend that amount of money every summer. Until these problems from the influx of 45,000 people, I always considered my home as my refuge – not a place from which I must flee.

Haringey needs to recognise the human impact of issuing a license for this size of event – whether it be to Live Nation/Festival Republic or whomever – this scale of event is unsuitable for a densely residential, urban environment.

3. Public safety:

- a. **Obstruction of pavements**: on Saturday 30th June at around 3pm, I and other people were forced off the pavements on Seven Sisters/ Blackstock/ Stroud Green Roads because large numbers of festival goers had spilled out of the local pubs and were blocking the pavements. There was no way through the crowds so we were forced into the busy main road while carrying heavy shopping or trying to get to the shops or get to or from the station. I saw no evidence of any security staff or police trying to control the crowds obstructing the pavements anywhere around the junction of Blackstock Road/Stroud Green Road/Seven Sisters Road. Again, at the public meeting on the morning of 30th June, Live Nation/Festival Republic admitted inability to control the crowds.

During 2017/18, I have been at several public meetings about the Live Nation/Festival Republic events where people talk about how intimidated they feel by the influx of 45,000 festival-goers onto local streets, in the shops, in the pubs in and around Finsbury Park station.

- b. **Public Health is at risk from the drug paraphernalia** which is left in the streets during and after the major events festivals - police reports and clean-up staff can confirm.
- c. **Public Health at risk from rats and other vermin**: litter and rats are especially evident in the park and along the perimeter near Hornsey Wood Tavern Gate along Seven Sisters Road up to Manor House entrance (see attached Pics 4 and 5). This is a public health issue. I and others have

reported sightings of rats and other vermin browsing amongst the discarded food boxes and other litter left in Finsbury Park and along Seven Sisters Road during and after major-events music festivals run by Live Nation/Festival Republic. Litter, blown along the fence, is still left in the park even after the 'clean-up'.

- d. Fear of crime has increased considerably in the residential streets (especially in Brownswood Ward) of Finsbury Park since the major-events festivals and during the festivals run by Live Nation/Festival Republic. Fear continues to rise along with the violent crime on the streets (see also 1a and 1b above). This would indicate that a license issued to Live Nation/Festival Republic is tantamount to issuing a licence for drug dealing and other violent crime in the streets around Finsbury Park.

Media reports and public petitions show the whole neighbourhood of Finsbury Park N4 is gathering a reputation for criminality and anti-social behaviour. My experience during the 'festival season' is that it is not an attractive to live. Finsbury Park area is less and less likely to attract or sustain new business, and/or investment. Community life in Finsbury Park is less cohesive as families move away. I know two people who moved out of the area in 2017, and others who are talking about moving out because of the drugs, the public nuisance and the anti-social behaviour which results with each Live Nation/Festival Republic major event in the park. The crime and disruption during and following these large-scale festivals run by Live Nation/Festival Republic means the area is being steadily degraded and the perception is that it is not safe to live here.

- e. Loss of crowd control – anti-social behaviour (and see 1c above) after the Liam Gallagher concert on 29th June 2018 festival goers were streaming down the street where I live, and the residential streets nearby (see photograph). I was returning home from the direction of Blackstock Road; I had arranged my route to avoid the festival crowd who were supposed to be controlled to egress along Seven Sisters Road to Finsbury Park Station. No control was visible anywhere in the streets as I struggled to get to my door. Many in the crowd were well-behaved but others were shouting and staggering. It was quite frightening; as I made my way through people intoxicated, staggering and shouting; others using intimidating language. Once indoors, I watched as men used people's gardens in Adolphus Road as toilets and took photographs of public urination in the garden opposite where I live. I videoed the crowd egressing along my road. Live Nation/Festival Republic security staff admitted to loss of crowd control for egress.

There was no sign of police or security staff.

- f. Public safety issues are flagged up in media reports and a Change.org petition set up by one of the festival goers, seeks refund from Festival Republic/Live Nation because of a poorly managed event with a range of health and safety breaches. This suggests a reputation for failing to manage crowds safely at major events. An example is NME (15/6/17) which reports on issues with the Dublin-based Longitude festival in 2017 when CEO Melvin Benn "issued an apology after reports of a "stampede" and chaos at the gates of Longitude Festival.'

The NME report went on: 'Ticketholders have disputed Benn's claims that "every single person" went on to enjoy the event, citing injuries suffered in the crush, theft and not being given wristbands as issues faced on the day.

<https://www.nme.com/news/music/melvin-benn-issues-apology-reports-stampede-chaos-longitude-festival-gates-2111746#sP6P83SYg7vLfpl2.99>

In addition, there are currently 3 petitions gathering sign-ups on issues directly or indirectly related to major events in Finsbury Park run by LiveNation/Festival Republic – in total, as of 31st July 2018, they amount to around 8,500 signatures:

- **6169 signatures on this petition:** <https://www.change.org/p/haringey-council-make-finsbury-park-safer-after-dark>
- **2039 signatures on this petition to Melvyn Benn CEO Festival Republic:** <https://www.change.org/p/melvin-benn-a-refund-for-finsbury-park-concerts>
- **495 signatures on this petition:** <https://www.change.org/p/calling-haringey-hackney-and-islington-sort-out-finsbury-park>

These are ample grounds to show breach of licence in 2017 and 2018 and for Haringey Council to refuse renewal of license to Live Nation/Festival Republic and other major-events music festivals in Finsbury Park in 2019. I am happy to have my comments made public.

I would like to make personal representations to the Licensing Committee at the review meeting to be held on 2nd August. Can you kindly confirm by email to [REDACTED] that I may attend to make representations in person? Could you please also advise in which meeting room the review is to be held?

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]
Geraldine Timlin

Encs.

