Finsbury Park Outdoor Events Policy Review 2013 Consultation report

November 2013

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Background

The Council is seeking to update its operational policy for outdoor events in parks across the borough. In all parks, with the exception of Finsbury Park, the control of the type and number of events in each park is managed through discussion with the Friends of the Park and Ward Councillors. No change is being proposed to that approach.

However, in Finsbury Park controls on the type and number of events was considered previously agreed by the Council. Therefore, in proposing amendments to these controls it is both necessary and good practice to seek the views of local people.

Finsbury Park is located on the boundary of Haringey, Hackney and Islington and therefore the consultation has endeavoured to engage feedback from Hackney and Islington as well as from Haringey.

Activity

The consultation commenced on Monday 30th September at a meeting of the St Ann's and Harringay Area Forum and Committee and the online questionnaire went live on 4th October. The consultation closed on Sunday 10th November 2013.

Web pages

Dedicated web pages were created on the Finsbury Park section of the Councils website setting out details of the consultation, why the Council was consulting and inviting people to provide their feedback on the proposals which were outlined in detail.

The consultation web page set out the key areas of the policy that were subject to review and also the councils proposals for change. Detail was provided to assist people in understanding the proposed changes and the text was supported with maps illustrating the size of the park and the area used for events as well as providing background information on the 2002 policy, a comparison of the proposed changes and the rationale behind the proposed changes.

The webpage also included a link to the consultation questionnaire. A link to the webpage was also maintained on the front page of the council website throughout the consultation.

Questionnaire

The consultation contained questions about each of the policy review issues:

1. We propose that the new policy increases the number of events permissible from five to six; and increases the duration from one to two days (three days on some occasions).

2. We propose to update the policy to reflect the introduction of the Licensing Act 2003.

3. It is proposed that the final area for an event is agreed through the event planning process, as the individual needs of each event is different.

4. It is proposed to extend the control on funfairs to include the circus and increase the number of visits from three to four.

5. It is proposed that the use of additional income generated be used in other parks in the borough as well as Finsbury Park.

6. It is proposed that a sum of £20,000 per annum would be set aside from the events income so that:
    a) the principal of an annual community led festival will continue to be supported
    b) a wider programme of community activities is supported throughout the year – this might include initiatives such as school holiday sporting programme, a national play day event or Sunday afternoon jazz at the Cafe

7. We propose to create a single site for event organisers needing advice and to produce a guide similar to those produced by other London Boroughs. This advice and guidance will apply to all parks in the Borough.

8. From January 2014 we propose:

    a) extending the opportunity to local groups to comment on each event application that better represent those living in the Finsbury Park area by introducing a stakeholder meeting two months prior to any large event
    b) maintaining a list of event applications and their current status on the council's website
    c) including confirmed events on the council's 'What's On' page at least four weeks prior to the event taking place (two weeks for small events); including 'event specific' information and contact details of event organisers
    d) require organisers of any event attracting over 10,000 people to leaflet a defined area adjacent to Finsbury Park two weeks prior to the event (this area will increase as the event attendance level increases)
    e) maintaining a list of people interested in events taking place in Finsbury Park.

Questions were designed to find out residents support or not for the various additional questions were asked about priorities for reinvesting income generated through events, their preference about how they would like to be kept updated in the future about events and if they were interested in being involved in the development of the event management guidance for event organisers. We also asked people for any additional comments or suggestions about managing events in Finsbury Park.

Public meetings

The Head of Client Services, the Council's Licensing Officer and lead police officer for event management in the borough attended two are forum meetings to discuss the proposals with those attending the meeting. At the St Ann's meeting the Council and Police officers were also joined on the panel by the Chair of Friends of Finsbury Park.

- St Ann's and Harringay Area Forum and Committee - 30th September 2013
- Crouch End, Hornsey and Stroud Green Area Forum and Committee – 24th October 2013

- The Head of Client Services attended and provided a written briefing to the Councils Regulatory Committee on 22nd October 2013
- The Assistant Director Single Front Line and the Head of Commissioning attended a special meeting of the Stroud Green Residents Association on the 7th November 2013.

Press and publicity

The key message throughout the consultation has been that we need to find new ways of managing events in Finsbury Park. The reason being that less events, the result of competition from other venues, means we have less money to spend on maintaining and improving Finsbury Park, and other parks in the borough.

The consultation was launched at the St Ann's & Harringay Forum and Committee meeting as set out earlier in this report.

This was then followed by various email notifications of the consultation to groups such as the Friends of Finsbury Park, Stroud Green Residents Association, Haringey neighbourhood watch co-ordinators in the catchment of Finsbury Park, It was also sent to stakeholder groups in the park, area forum members, Ward Councillors and to officers at Hackney & Islington Council.

A Council Press release was published on the 13th October (Appendix A).

The consultation was promoted in the following ways:-

- A leaflet drop to all properties (approx 7,000) within catchment area of Finsbury Park, including Hackney & Islington.
- Area Forum Distribution Lists
- Neighbourhood Watches in the local area
- Leaflets in the two park cafes
- Harringay and Stroud Green Library
- The Friends of Finsbury Park
- Stroud Green Residents Association
- Ward councillors
- Officers at Hackney & Islington
- Haringey Safety Advisory Group

Media coverage

Press coverage commenced on the 5th October and there was subsequent related coverage on 7 other occasions between then and the 2nd December.

The debate was covered in the following publications:-

Ham & High Broadway – 5th October 2013

Haringey Independent – 13th October 2013

Ham & High Broadway – 15th November 2013

Haringey Advertiser – 15th November 2013

London24.com – 16th November 2013

Islington Tribune – 22nd November 2013

Haringey Independent – 28th November 2013

Haringey Advertiser – 2nd December 2013

See Appendix B for details of the articles.

The consultation was also discussed via social media

Twitter

Topic's been tweeted a number of times, including by the following:

@HaringeyLibDems

@Safer_Events

@FinsParkFriends

@RichGittins

@IslingtonBC

@HaringeyLabour

@harringayonline

@crouchendlabour

@lfeatherstone

@haringeycouncil

@Haringey_Indy

@StroudGreeners

Harringay Online

A number of discussions were also featured on the subject:-

http://www.harringayonline.com/forum/topics/no-toilets-music-promoter-makes-application-for-permanent-finsbur

http://www.harringayonline.com/forum/topics/haringey-council-planning-to-increase-number-of-finsbury-park

http://www.harringayonline.com/forum/topics/haringey-plans-to-treble-the-number-of-concerts-days-at-finsbury?commentId=844301%3AComment%3A539710

http://www.harringayonline.com/forum/topics/finsbury-park-to-host-more-events-to-help-plug-budget-holes?commentId=844301%3AComment%3A468423

http://www.harringayonline.com/forum/topics/finsbury-park-consultation-on-holding-more-large-events-in-the-1

http://www.harringayonline.com/forum/topics/friends-of-finsbury-park-start-petition-against-increase-in-conce

Analysis

People/residents were invited to comment on the proposed policy by:

1. Completing an online questionnaire,
2. Writing to us
3. Attending a number of meetings

All contributions were received in that timeframe with the exception of a letter from Jeremy Corbyn MP. That letter has been included in this summary for completeness.

1. Online Questionnaire

The online questionnaire asked 15 questions covering the 8 proposals.

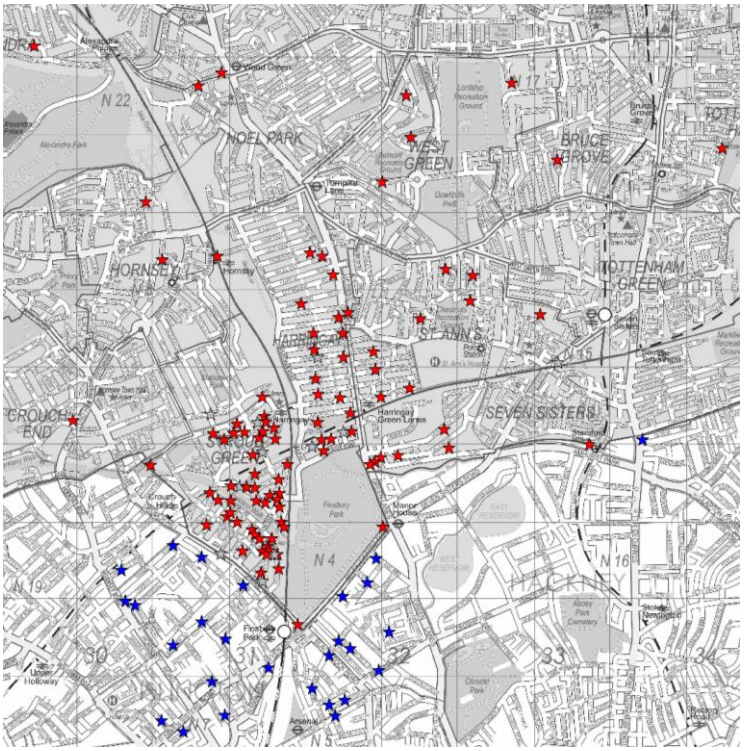
It also asked people about themselves to help us understand the views of different people.

A total of 262 responses were received to the questionnaire. All the information has been used (where relevant) to provide greater insight into the responses received.

Responses were received from the surrounding area of Finsbury Park and in a few cases outside of the Borough as follows:

Haringey	182
Islington	36
Hackney	30
No Valid postcode	13
Out of London	1
Grand Total	**262**

Map showing the distribution of responses



The following graphs, charts and tables summarise the question asked and the results for each proposal:

Proposal 1 – Use of parks for events

We propose that our new policy increases the number of large events allowed from five to six each year; and increases the permitted duration from one to two days (three days on some occasions).

Q1 To what extent do you support each of the following?

Increasing the number of events from 5 to 6

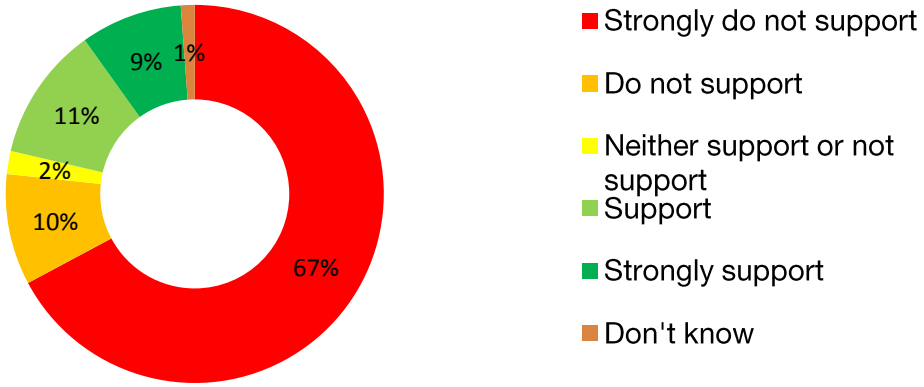


Table 1: Level of support by borough of extending to 6 events:

Increasing the number of events from 5 to 6	Hackney	Haringey	Islington
Do not support or strongly do not support	82%	79%	63%
Neither support or not support	0%	2%	3%
Support or Strongly Support	14%	19%	31%

Keeping the number of events at 5

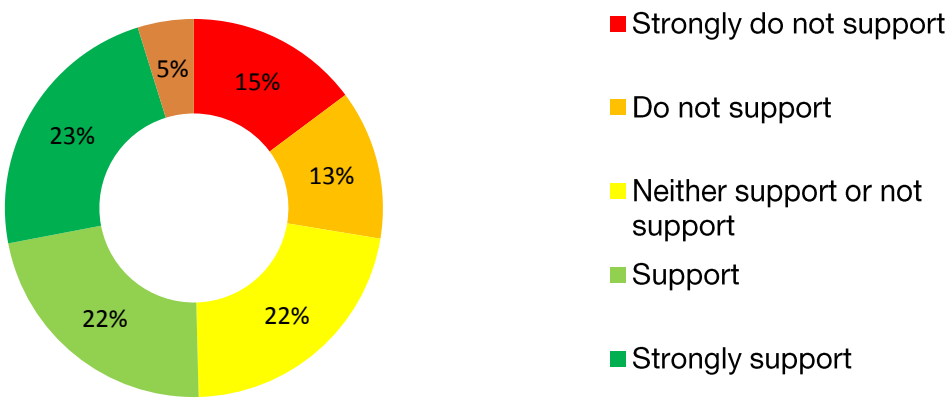


Table 2: Level of support by borough for keeping five events:

Keeping the number of events at 5	Hackney	Haringey	Islington
Do not support or strongly do not support	24%	26%	30%
Neither support or not support	21%	22%	21%
Support or Strongly Support	52%	47%	39%

Proposal 2 - Attendance Numbers

We propose to update the policy to reflect the introduction of the Licensing Act 2003, which means attendance numbers, will be decided as part of the licensing process.

Q2 Please use the space below to make any comments about this proposed change:

- Respondents were asked to make comments on this proposal and there was a mixed response in terms of support, some seeking the council to limit the maximum number attending the park for events and some that did not understand what this meant in practice.

Proposal 3 - Area Used

It is proposed that the final area for an event is agreed through the event planning process, as the individual needs of each event is different.

Q3 Please use the space below to make any comments about this proposed change:

- Respondents were asked to make comments on this proposal and there was a mixed response with some seeking the area to be contained to the bandstand field area, some agreeing that it was sensible to be able to vary the area used to reduce the impact on the same part of the park each time and some, particularly Hackney residents suggesting that events take place further into the park.

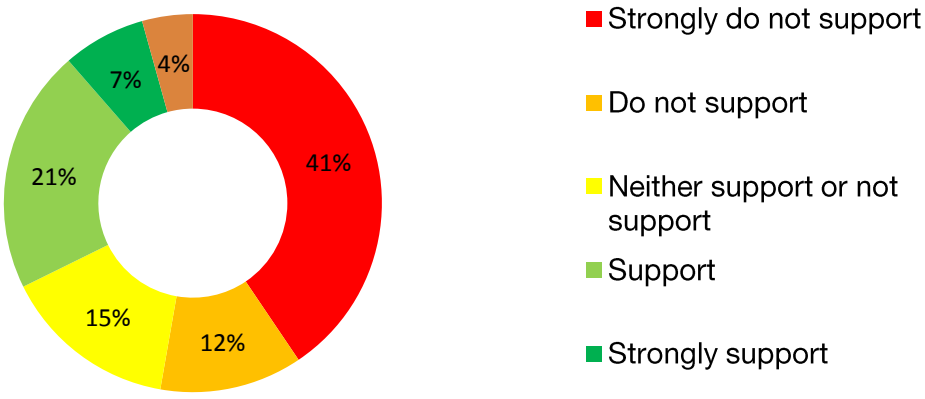
- During the Heritage Lottery Improvement Works, significant investment was made in both the bandstand field and the carriageway drive to support the hosting of large events. Therefore, it is in this area that most events are likely to take place. However, it is sensible to have scope to vary this and to be able to respond to concerns from the Hackney residents that every event seems to face on to Seven Sisters Road.
- It was also evident from the responses that the Council needs to do more promote the rest of the park which is in fact larger than many of the other local parks put together. There are many interesting parts of the park and this is something the Council will look to promote in 2014 onwards.

Proposal 4 – Funfairs & Circuses

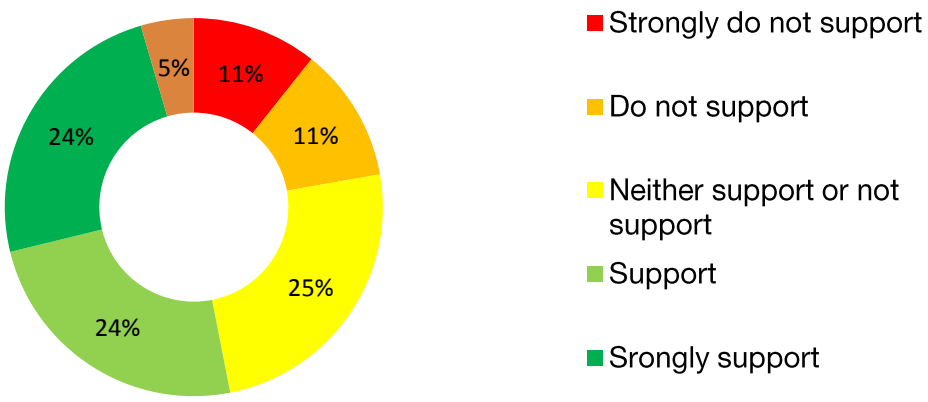
It is proposed to extend the control on funfairs to now also include the circus, increasing the number of visits from three to four per year.

Q4 To what extent do you support each of the following?

Continued use of the park for funfairs and circuses on up to four occasions per year



Restricting the use of the park to the funfair only on three occasions per year

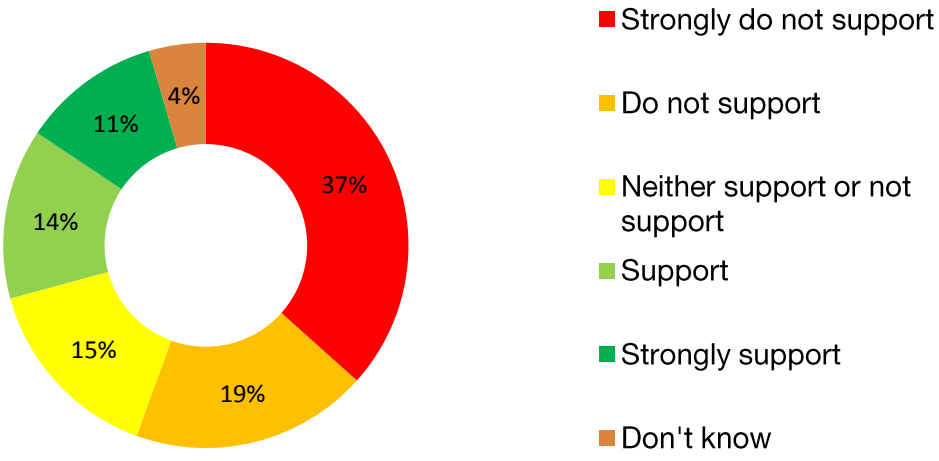


Proposal 5 – Reinvestment of Income

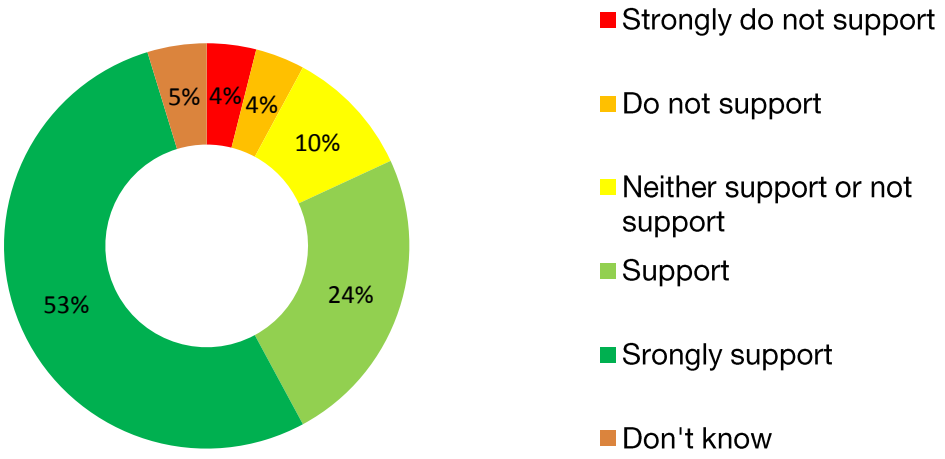
It is proposed that the use of additional income generated be used in other parks in the borough, as well as Finsbury Park.

Q5
To what extent do you support each of the following?

Using any additional event income to improve all parks in the borough

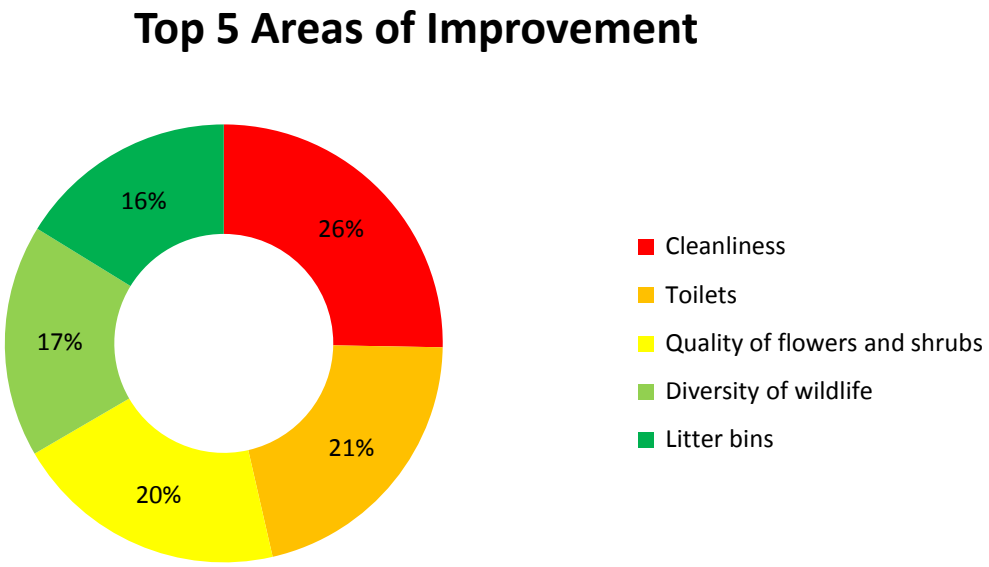


Addressing the needs of Finsbury Park first and using any remaining income for other park improvements



Proposal 6 – Improving Finsbury Park

Q6 What improvements would you like to see made to Finsbury Park?



1.	Cleanliness	134
2.	Toilets	112
3.	Quality of flowers and shrubs	107
4.	Diversity of wildlife	91
5.	Litter bins	86
6.	Cafes	69
7.	Sports facilities	72

8.	Dog control	71
9.	Lighting	75
10.	Seating	58
11.	Play areas	55
12.	Condition of paths	56
13.	Dog bins	48
14.	Youth facilities	43
15.	Graffiti removal	42
16.	Disabled facilities	36
17.	Information	24
18.	Other	26
19.	Grass cutting	20
20.	Events	25
21.	Signage	15

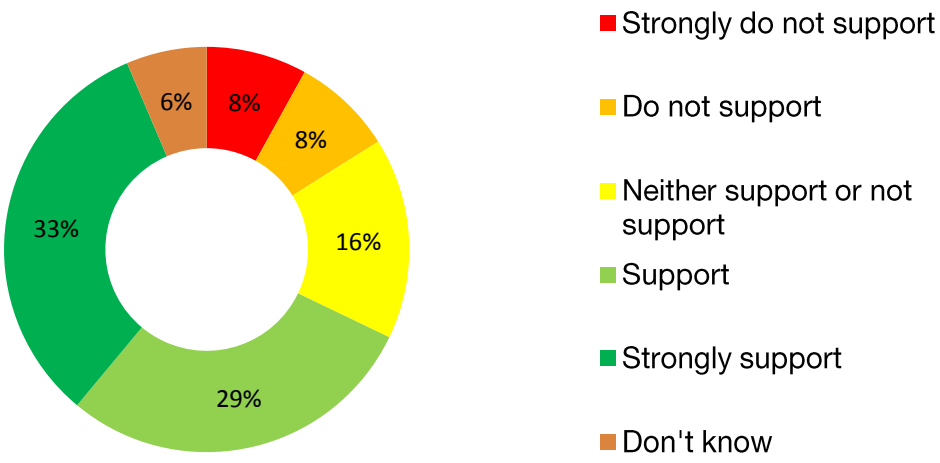
Proposal 7 – A community festival and wider park activity programme

Community Festival

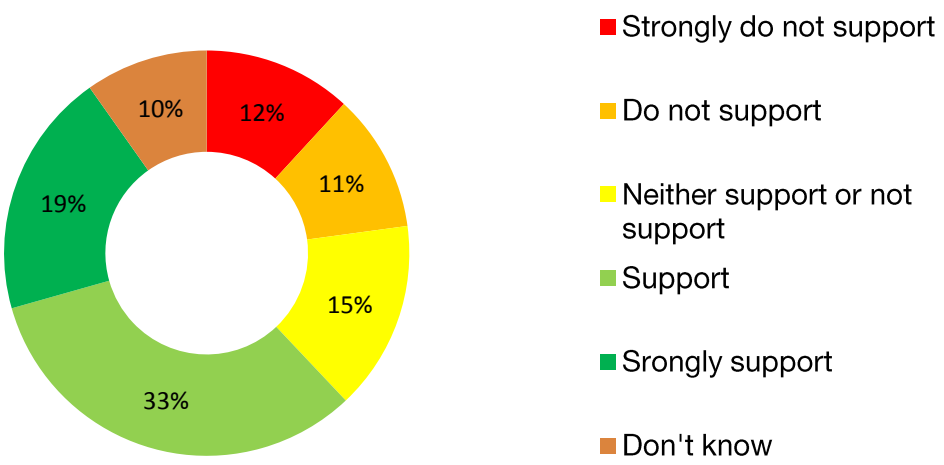
It is proposed that a sum of £20,000 per year would be set aside from the events income so that annual community led festivals and a wider programme of community activities is supported throughout the year in a number of Haringey parks; this might include initiatives such as a school holiday sporting programme, national play days and cultural events.

Q7 To what extent do you support each of the following?

Reintroducing a community led festival in Finsbury Park



Introducing a wider community activity programme for Haringey parks



Proposal 8 – What activities would you like to see included in a community activity programme?

A range of activities were suggested for including in a community programme such as:-

- Wildlife and bird watching
- Outdoor cinema
- Vintage fairs
- Local traders / community cooking events
- Similar event to the Hidden River Festival
- Farmers Markets
- Folk Festivals
- Art fairs
- Theatre productions
- Community Gardening / Have a go sessions
- Volleyball
- Children's sporting activities
- Taster days
- Cycle training.

Advice & Guidance

We proposed to create a single website for event organisers needing advice; and produce a guide similar to those produced by other London Boroughs. This advice and guidance will apply to all parks in the Borough.

Q 9. If you are an event organiser, or represent a group who might wish to put on an event, please tell us what would help you organise and run your event better:

- Funding to run events

- Simpler booking forms
- An event calendar showing availability
- Extended hours for certain events
- Laws and regulations relating to events
- What needs to be in place to run events
- Advice on other parks that can hold large events
- Creation of the website
- Visible allocated person to contact
- Access to public liability insurance
- Detail about planned events

Q10 If you would like to be involved in the development of the final guidance then please provide your contact details:

- 52 people provided their contact details to involved in contributing to the final advice and guidance for putting on events in Haringey

Q11 How would you like to be kept informed? Please indicate your preference below:

Website	84
Twitter	23
Email	145
Text	12

Question 12 and 13 were the provision of contact details

Q14 Please use the space below to make any other comments about our proposals:

See appendix A for the additional comments submitted.

Q15 What is your postcode

249 people provided a valid postcode. This has enabled us to map results not to identify individual households, but to understand how views differ geographically according to proximity to the Park

2. Written responses from organisations and individuals

Responses were received from:-

- Stroud Green Residents Association
- LB Islington
- LB Hackney
- Haringey Cycling Campaign
- Jeremy Corbin MP
- Haringey Liberal Democrat Party

They can be found in Appendix D-I

3. Minutes of meetings

As part of the consultation it was important that Officers were available to meet with residents to answer their questions in person. The following four meetings were attended:-

- St Ann's and Harringay Area Forum and Committee - 30th September 2013
- Crouch End, Hornsey and Stroud Green Area Forum and Committee – 24th October 2013
- Regulatory Committee on 22nd October 2013
- Stroud Green Residents Association on the 7th November 2013. (no minutes)

Minutes can be found on the Councils Website.

Press Release

Consultation held by Haringey Borough Council over management of Finsbury Park

Haringey Borough Council is calling on residents to have their say on proposals to change the way events are managed in Finsbury Park.

The council is planning to create a new outdoor events policy to replace outdated recommendations agreed more than ten years ago.

The new policy would aim to enable improvements the park while also giving a wider range of local groups access.

Any extra income generated would be ploughed back into improving the park – including setting aside £20,000 for a dedicated programme of community activities such as school sports events and cultural festivals.

The authority also wants to improve the way it works with the community to plan for larger events.
It will do this by setting up panels of local people to discuss applications and by working more closely with organisers.

Proposals include increasing the maximum number of large outdoor events per year from five to six.
But the council claims the majority of the park – still larger than the whole of neighbouring Clissold Park – will remain available for public use throughout event days.

Large events will not be permitted during the summer school holidays.

Councillor John Bevan, cabinet member for environment, said: “Haringey’s award-winning parks are some of the best in the country and we want to make sure more people are able to use them for community activities.

“I’d urge residents to tell us what they think of our proposals so we can put local people at the centre of our plans for Finsbury Park’s future.”

To have your say, visit www.haringey.gov.uk/finsburyparkevents before Thursday, October 31.

Press Coverage

2 December 2013, The Haringey Advertiser

Councillors' concerns over Finsbury Park concerts

SIX councillors from Islington have added their voices to concerns about large concerts being held in Finsbury Park.

Finsbury Park ward councillors Phil Kelly, Mick O'Sullivan and Barbara Sidnell and Highbury West ward councillors Theresa Debono, Andy Hull and Richard Greening have written to Haringey Council leader Claire Kober expressing their concerns about concerts for more than 50,000 people being held in the park.

Their letter follows opposition by Haringey Liberal Democrats to plans to increase the number of concerts in the park from five to six, as well as lodging an objection to promoter Live Nation's bid to hold the Wireless Festival in the park next year.

In their letter, the councillors – whose wards neighbour the park – said: "We are to ask you to take steps to prevent future disruption to our communities from commercial concerts in Finsbury Park. We strongly oppose the holding of concerts in the park with large audiences of up to 50,000 people."

Citing disruption caused by people attending the Stone Roses concerts in the park in June, they said: "Fans, unhindered by stewards from the concert organisers or anyone else, were responsible for fights, public urination in the park and streets in our wards and foul language into the early hours. Their sheer numbers hindered our people from using public transport as they usually do.

"There was chaos around Finsbury Park station. When Arsenal play at home or hold events at the Emirates, a proper, well-rehearsed dispersal plan limits disruption even though it cannot prevent it.

"The summer brings some respite to residents but this is jeopardised by concerts. This is why Islington has limited Arsenal to three concerts per year at the Emirates, though they wanted to hold six. Haringey should take the same approach to concerts in Finsbury Park.

"We urge Haringey to require concert organisers to fund and to put into place arrangements to manage crowds once they leave the event, including detailed queuing plans for Finsbury Park station, and they must prevent fans from accessing residential areas in Islington.

"They should also bear the costs to Islington of clearing up rubbish and litter left behind in our streets after these concerts."

Haringey Council has said that the increased "income from the events can fund investment in the borough's parks", especially in the face of budget cuts.

And a spokeswoman added: "Improvements to local transport mean crowd dispersal is quicker than ever and new plans – which will be discussed at a cabinet meeting in December – will further help manage crowd control when events in the park take place."

A final decision on the proposals for increasing the number of concerts in the park will be made at the meeting of Haringey's cabinet on December 17

Two sold-out dates by Sheffield band Arctic Monkeys have already been announced for the park for May 23 and 24 next year.

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28 November 2013, Haringey Independent, Jaber Mohamed

Islington politicians complain about 'fights and urination' after concerts in Finsbury Park

Islington politicians have written to Haringey Borough Council to complain about music fans fighting and urinating in the street after concerts in Finsbury Park.

Islington borough councillors Phil Kelly, Mick O'Sullivan, Barbara Sidnell, Theresa Debono, Andy Hull and Richard Greening have sent a letter to the leader of Haringey Council Cllr Claire Kober.

The Finsbury Park and Highbury West ward councillors called on her to take steps to prevent future disruption to our communities from commercial concerts.

The letter said that people who attended the Stone Roses concert earlier this year caused "chaos" in the area around the park.

It said: "Fans, unhindered by stewards from the concert organisers or anyone else, were responsible for fights, public urination in the park and streets in our wards and foul language into the early hours.

"Their sheer numbers hindered our people from using public transport as they usually do and there was chaos around Finsbury Park station."

The six councillors say they strongly oppose holding concerts in the park with audiences larger than 50,000 people.

Proper crowd control measures have been called for and the Islington politicians said football matches were a good example of how to prevent disruption.

They said: "When Arsenal play at home or hold events at the Emirates, a proper, well-rehearsed dispersal plan limits disruption even though it cannot prevent it.

"The summer brings some respite to residents but this is jeopardised by concerts.

"This is why Islington has limited Arsenal to three concerts per year at the Emirates, though they wanted to hold six. Haringey should take the same approach to concerts in Finsbury Park."

The letter urged the authority to require concert organisers to fund and to put into place arrangements to manage crowds once they leave the event, including detailed queuing plans for Finsbury Park station.

They also want organisers to prevent fans from accessing residential areas in Islington and bear the costs of clearing up rubbish and litter left behind in the streets.

Liberal Democrat councillors in Haringey have also raised concerns about concerts in the park.
They have lodged an objection to a licensing application by the festival promoter, Live Nation, to hold the Wireless Festival in Finsbury Park next summer.

If approved the license would allow a concert that is twice as big as that of the Stone Roses.

Opposition councillors also claim the license is an indefinite one and will allow the Wireless Festival and other festivals to be held in the park for years to come.

Cllr Katherine Reece, the deputy leader of the Haringey Lib Dems, said: “The Labour-run council did not do enough to make sure extra facilities were in place for the Stone Roses concert.

“Residents are rightly worried about how they will cope with an even bigger concert with far more people.

“There is a real concern about what this will do to the park and how they will stop anti-social behaviour.”

A council spokesman said the authority is already looking to reduce disruption in the area.

She said: “Finsbury Park is a popular sporting and cultural destination in London, the rich programme of events brings new visitors to the area which in turn supports local businesses.

“It’s vital that we increase income from parks in order to maintain their high standards over coming years when our budget is set to be substantially reduced because of cuts in government funding.

“Improvements to local transport mean crowd dispersal is quicker than ever and new plans - which will be discussed at a cabinet meeting in December - will further help manage crowd control when events in the park take place.”

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22 November 2013, Islington Tribune, Peter Gruner

Arctic Monkeys to play Finsbury Park gigs, but council go cold on plans for 18 concerts a year

PLANS for the number of concerts held in Finsbury Park to be increased to 18 have been condemned by Islington Council.

The Town Hall’s safety chief Paul Convery has appealed to neighbouring Haringey not to go ahead with the “highly disruptive” concerts inside 115-acre Finsbury Park next year.

He spoke out in the run-up to a meeting in Haringey next month, when the plans to triple the number of weekend concerts will be discussed.

With plans for a concert by the Arctic Monkeys over two nights next May and other events, both Islington and Hackney councils, who have residents living around the park, are worried about the prospect of more noise and anti-social behaviour.

Cllr Convery said he hoped Haringey – responsible for the up-keep of the park – would agree to keep concerts to a minimum for the sake of residents who live nearby.

Highbury Lib Dem councillor John Gilbert added: “The Labour council in Haringey can’t manage the concerts they have there properly, so how on earth will they cope with more?”

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16 November 2013, London24.com, Alex Wellman

Wireless Festival rights bid ‘risks ruining’ Finsbury Park

A north London council risks ruining Finsbury Park if it rubber-stamps a promoter’s bid to hold festivals indefinitely in the 110-acre public space, according to critics.

Residents fear they could be forced out of the area in a bid to boost local authority coffers, with opponents on the council arguing the music event could leave the park effectively out-of-bounds for two weeks in the middle of summer.

Haringey Council is currently looking at an application from promoters Live Nation which asks for an indefinite licence to allow the Wireless Festival and several others to be held in the park for years to come.

If granted, it would mean promoters would move in next year and not need to apply for a licence for music and dancing and the sale of alcohol each following year – leaving residents fearful the park will be ruined.

Kit Greveson, of Stroud Green resident’s association, said: “People are really not happy about this at all as they feel the park will become restricted to those who use it for leisure activities.

“If this company is granted the licence, unless they contravene part of it, all they will have to do is keep applying for events.

“Once you get the entertainment licence you are well on the way to having the event. It would not be good to allow this application.”

Festival organisers have applied for the licence just a few weeks after Haringey Council announced it was looking into proposals which would treble the number of event days in the park.

Currently concerts are only allowed to run for five days in the year, but the proposals would see this grow to up to six concerts – each lasting three days.

Ms Greveson said: “I understand councils need to make savings and find money in the current climate but they should not be using public spaces to do so.”

Councillors from both Haringey and Islington joined residents in voicing their concerns about the application for an indefinite licence – which if granted would see the Wireless run at Finsbury Park between July 4 and 7.
Opponents argue this would mean organisers would be setting up and shutting down a week either side of these dates.

Cllr Katherine Reece, Lib Dem deputy leader, said: “It is also awful that a large part of the park will be inaccessible to the public for nearly two weeks if this application is granted. I worry about the safety of the children in the area - a concern we have expressly most strongly to the promoters.”

Cllr John Gilbert, Haringey East, said: “This new application to Haringey for a four-day music festival, before even the results of the council consultation have been considered, has just confirmed our worst fears.”

A council spokesman said: “No decisions have been made in regard to changing the current policy on numbers of concerts in Finsbury Park. The matter will be put before a Cabinet in December who will consider residents feedback to the consultation.”

Wireless Festival 2013 was held at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in Stratford. During Jay-Z headline set, two men were left seriously injured by a double stabbing, with medics having to force there way through crowds to reach the victims

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15 November 2013, The Haringey Advertiser

Finsbury Park concert fears

A CONSULTATION into plans to allow more gigs to take place in Park has now closed.

Haringey Council is proposing that six concerts “with a maximum duration of two or three days”, plus set-up, be allowed in the park.

That is up from the five currently permitted by the last agreed council policy of 2002.

The changes would also allow the Wireless Festival to take place in the park for years to come.

The local authority says that the increased “income from the events can fund investment in the borough's parks”.

However, following concerns that the extra concerts would lead to an increase in noise and antisocial behaviour, Haringey's Liberal Democrat opposition has spoken out against the proposals.

Deputy leader Katherine Reece said: “The Liberal Democrats have opposed plans to massively increase the number of concert days at Finsbury Park.

“We are also concerned about the proposal to have the Wireless Festival in Finsbury Park.

“There need to be much better facilities in place, more toilets and more security than there have been for previous concerts. It is also awful that a large part of the park will be inaccessible to the public for nearly two weeks if this application is granted.

“I worry about the safety of the children in the area - a concern we have expressly most strongly to the promoters.”

The council argues that due to the size of Finsbury Park, people can still use a large portion “when an event is taking place”.

A final decision about the proposals will be made at a meeting of the council's cabinet on December 17.

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15 November 2013, Ham&High Broadway, Alex Wellman

Wireless Festival organisers set sights on Finsbury Park

Residents fear they could be forced out of Finsbury Park after concert organisers asked for permission to hold festivals there indefinitely.

Haringey Council is currently looking at an application from promoters Live Nation which asks for an indefinite licence to allow the Wireless Festival and several others to be held in the park for years to come.

If granted, it would mean promoters would move in next year and not need to apply for a licence for music and dancing and the sale of alcohol each following year – leaving residents fearful the park will be ruined.

Kit Greveson, of Stroud Green resident's association, said: "People are really not happy about this at all as they feel the park will become restricted to those who use it for leisure activities.

"If this company is granted the licence, unless they contravene part of it, all they will have to do is keep applying for events.

"Once you get the entertainment licence you are well on the way to having the event. It would not be good to allow this application."

Festival organisers have applied for the licence just a few weeks after Haringey Council announced it was looking into proposals which would treble the number of event days in the park.

Currently concerts are only allowed to run for five days in the year, but the proposals would see this grow to up to six concerts – each lasting three days.

Ms Greveson said: "I understand councils need to make savings and find money in the current climate but they should not be using public spaces to do so."

Councillors from both Haringey and Islington joined residents in voicing their concerns about the application for an indefinite licence – which if granted would see the Wireless run at Finsbury Park between July 4 and 7.

Opponenets argue this would mean organisers would be setting up and shutting down a week either side of these dates.

Cllr Katherine Reece, Lib Dem deputy leader, said: "It is also awful that a large part of the park will be inaccessible to the public for nearly two weeks if this application is granted. I worry about the safety of the children in the area - a concern we have expressly most strongly to the promoters."

Cllr John Gilbert, Haringey East, said: "This new application to Haringey for a four-day music festival, before even the results of the council consultation have been considered, has just confirmed our worst fears."

A council spokesman said: “No decisions have been made in regard to changing the current policy on numbers of concerts in Finsbury Park. The matter will be put before a Cabinet in December who will consider residents feedback to the consultation.”

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13 October 2013, Haringey Independent, Jaber Mohamed

Consultation held by Haringey Borough Council over management of Finsbury Park

Haringey Borough Council is calling on residents to have their say on proposals to change the way events are managed in Finsbury Park.

The council is planning to create a new outdoor events policy to replace outdated recommendations agreed more than ten years ago.

The new policy would aim to enable improvements the park while also giving a wider range of local groups access.

Any extra income generated would be ploughed back into improving the park – including setting aside £20,000 for a dedicated programme of community activities such as school sports events and cultural festivals.

The authority also wants to improve the way it works with the community to plan for larger events.
It will do this by setting up panels of local people to discuss applications and by working more closely with organisers.

Proposals include increasing the maximum number of large outdoor events per year from five to six.
But the council claims the majority of the park – still larger than the whole of neighbouring Clissold Park – will remain available for public use throughout event days.

Large events will not be permitted during the summer school holidays.

Councillor John Bevan, cabinet member for environment, said: “Haringey’s award-winning parks are some of the best in the country and we want to make sure more people are able to use them for community activities.

“I’d urge residents to tell us what they think of our proposals so we can put local people at the centre of our plans for Finsbury Park’s future.”

To have your say, visit www.haringey.gov.uk/finsburyparkevents before Thursday, October 31.

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5 October 2013, Ham&High Broadway, Flora Drury

Plans for more Finsbury Park concerts ‘horrify’ residents and councillors

Plans to increase the number of concerts held at Finsbury Park have horrified residents and councillors.

Haringey Council is consulting with local residents and businesses on proposals to up the number of concerts – and therefore the income generated – to six a year, with each being allowed to run for up to three days.

But it seems after problems experienced following the Stone Roses gigs this summer - which saw concert-goers vomiting in the streets, as well as a spike in crime and only earned the council an estimated £130,000 – residents are less than happy with the idea.

Madeline Palm, co-chairman of the Woodstock Road Residents' Association, in Stroud Green, said: "The park is a park: it is for local residents to relax in, it is not a profitable commercial venture.

"A lot of people around here live in houses of multiple occupation, and haven't got access to gardens so to have most of the park fenced off is a problem.

"And for me, as a resident whose home backs onto the park, to have all that noise and the fumes intruding on my life is a no no."

Kevin Duffy, trustee of Friends of Finsbury Park, added: "We always had an agreement that these events would not impact on school holidays as this is the time when families with limited economic means need unrestricted access to the park. We don't want to be party poopers but some of the concerts have caused a lot of trouble.

"We are happy to have a balance but we really feel that the council are using Finsbury Park as a means of subsidising other costs in the borough."

Opposition councillors have also registered their unhappiness with the plans. Haringey's Lib Dems calculate that six concerts could lead to swathes of the park being taken over for as much as 12 weeks over the summer, as each concert can take two weeks to put up and pull down.

Stroud Green councillor and Lib Dem deputy leader Katherine Reece argued the council should have fewer, but more profitable concerts instead.

"For many local families the park is their back garden – and it is extremely popular during summer weekends.

"It only needs to rain hard during one of these 18 concerts days for the park to be ruined for a year. There needs to be much better communication with residents before large concerts than there was during the Stone Roses concert and greatly increased toilet facilities too."

A council spokesman said: "Through our consultation, we are encouraging all residents, local businesses and community groups to have their say on the proposals before any final decisions are made."

"A report detailing the results of the consultation – including a review of fees and charges for events – will be considered by the council's cabinet in December."

I don't think you have asked about the wisdom of requiring big event organisers to distribute 10k leaflets! Consider whether residents really want any more junk mail! Surely posters around park gates and fence would be better. Anyway this requirement could be very onerous to organisers of non-profit events, e.g. TUC Respect Festival and Newroz. Leaflets cost a lot and either organisers would have to pay a contractor to deliver them or find lots of volunteers when they need all their resources for the event itself. Council could help publicise events in public library 'what's on' brochures, through the park cafe, in Haringey People, through HAVCO, etc.

1 Please pay attention to ways of alerting residents and visitors that major events triggering extended CPZ restrictions are planned. All homes in these areas should be included in leafleting required by the event organizers. 2 The proposals say nothing about the level of charges being considered by the council for the use of the park. All the information available seems to suggest that in the past the council has undercharged for use of this valuable facility. It inexplicable that this should be the case when the council is constantly quoting lack of resources for all kinds of failures to maintain the parks. A commercial rate MUST be charged.

1) I strongly oppose the use of Finsbury Park for any large-scale private events (eg concerts) because I) they take a large part of the park out of public use usually in the summer when most people want to use it, and often for 10-14 days, if you include the time taken to set up and pack down the event, II) attendance at these events is not open to the community but only those willing and able to pay the huge ticket prices, III) every event held in the last 10 years has caused damage to the park which has not subsequently been fully repaired or put right. For a local resident who uses the park every day, this is very annoying. 2) If the council is going to use the park for large-scale events (which I would prefer it did not), it should limit these not on the 'number of events' but on the 'number of days that the park is not fully available to the public' - ie it is the number of days that a large section of the park is out of action that matters not the number of ev!ents per se. 3) After any events, there should be more work to repair and put right the damage done to the grassy areas, the fences, the paths, etc. Every event should be run on a 'zero net damage' basis. 4) I appreciate that the park costs money to run and since its refurb it has been much better. I think the council should be using general funds to maintain and run the park not income from events.

All clean up and policing costs should be directly borne by show producers except for community events which the council should exempt from all charges entirely. Also every fourth year should be fallow - so no events at all for one out of 4 years, to allow the land time to recover fully.

Any change in the number of events allowed in the park would impact on residents in Hackney, Islington as well as Haringey. The Stone Roses concerts could clearly be heard at Hornsey Road and there was considerable congestion on the roads, pavements, cafes and pubs. Need to ensure that approporiate consultation takes place in both Hackney & Islington.

As a close local resident I am already concerned about the large events that take place eg at the 2 day Guns and Roses concert in the summer stroud Green Rd was almost unpassable on the pavement as a result of people standing outside pubs cafes and shops drinking alcohol and smoking, dropping rubbish and in some areas urinating in the street, the streets were not cleaned for a number of days following the event. frequently we are required to remove our cars from the spaces for which we pay, often given very little notice so if you are away from home you return to find your car has been towed away and you

have to search the streets for it and then fight the council over a fine for not moving it! For the last two years we have had to complain about the noise from the Kurdish new year celebrations, which seem to be louder than any other event, and there is no response form the council and the noise level is just the same the next year. If you want the support of local !residents you need to show that you are taking notice of their concerns and that as Haringey residents and rate payers their needs come first.

As a regular user of the park for the Saturday morning parkrun event I am very much against there being an increase in event days from 5 to 18 [six events at 3 days each is big leap from 5 one day events] I am witness to the chaos and disturbance that some of these big events cause which severely restrictive use of what is supposed to be a public park but which becomes like a prison with security companies overstepping their remit and being quite aggressive in securing the area. In addition the many large heavy goods vehicles setting up and taking down these events create a danger to the may pedestrian and cycling users of the park.

As far as possible the park should be kept as just that- not a venue. Most people round here do not have gardens- we need that space for exercise and fresh air. Increasing commercial use reduces our accessibility to these things and the noise and disruption are not worth it.

Bear in mind that there is also Arsenal football which affects traffic and parking enormously. It will be very hard on local residents to have even more restriction on movement

Dear Sir or Madam Having been to a public meeting last night with Council officers, I have become most alarmed at your proposals. Finsbury park is not a concert venue. It is a park,a public space for families to enjoy. It provides an open space for many people from children to pensioners who do not have other access to outdoors space and has an immeasurable impact on physical and mental wellbeing. The area is very mixed in income and diversity and the Community should be nourished, not excluded by stopping us from using our park for most of the summer. The proposed change in the policy is likely to affect Finsbury Park the most as concert organisers are apparently already lining up. The latter makes me think the Council is seriously underselling our resource and should look to fewer concerts that they charge more for. The concerts are noisy and affect my utility at home when they are on and they stop me from enjoying the park. However they are also a part of a vibran!t community and I am happy with a small volume ie 5x1 day events. Numbers attending must be restricted to 30-40,000 as 49,999 is not safe or pleasant for the local infrastructure/residents. The park environment will be spoilt as would any other park in Haringey if effectively 18 days of concert x 49,999 people are tramping across it. Money being thrown at it post hoc will be unable to reverse the damage and this is a terrible waste of National Lottery money that has gone into making Finsbury Park a much better place to use. The setting up and bringing down of the concerts will also affect our utility as the lorries are dangerous, noisy and polluting. Any large events (including and setting up/taking down) must not take place in the school holidays for safety and utility reasons. Can I also add I have not been consulted about this change(ie sent formal letter/flyer) but have heard about it by word of mouth. I am unhappy that the Council has not properly consulted local resi!dents who bear the brunt of these changes.

Dear Sir or Madam, Having been to a public meeting last night with Council officers, I have become most alarmed at your proposals. Finsbury park is not a concert venue. It is a park,a public space for families to enjoy. It provides an open space for many people from children to pensioners who do not have

other access to outdoors space and has an immeasurable impact on physical and mental wellbeing. The area is very mixed in income and diversity and the Community should be nourished, not excluded by stopping us from using our park for most of the summer. The proposed change in the policy is likely to affect Finsbury Park the most as concert organisers are apparently already lining up. The latter makes me think the Council is seriously underselling our resource and should look to hold fewer concerts and charge more for each one. The concerts are unreasonably noisy and affect my peace when at home (even with all windows closed) and when they are on and they stop me fr!om enjoying the park. It may be ok to allow a small number say one or two one day events. Numbers attending must be restricted to 30-40,000 as 49,999 is not safe or pleasant for the local infrastructure/residents. The park environment will be spoilt as would any other park in Haringey if effectively 18 days of concert x 49,999 people are tramping across it. Money spent to try and restore the space after each event will be unable to reverse the damage and this is a terrible waste of National Lottery money that has gone into making Finsbury Park a much better place to use. It is even possible that holding these damaging events could amount to a breach of the terms of the original grant. The setting up and bringing down of the concerts will also affect our utility as the lorries are dangerous, noisy and polluting. Any large events (including and setting up/taking down) must not take place in the school holidays for safety and utility reasons.

Dear Sir/Madame We live on Seven Sisters Road, overlooking the park. Whilst our council is in Hackney we are grateful to have our say as our flat is very directly affected by events in Finsbury Park. The principal objection we have is against any relaxation of rules governing funfairs and circuses. The latter in particular produce extremely loud music which make the window in our flat shake, and additionally they use a very noisy generator which emits a continuous noise 24 hours a day. In the case of both funfairs and circuses we find the environmental impact much greater than one off gigs, as there is a constant stream of litter and waste from users around the park. If I had full choice, I would arguably allow more large events in exchange for a complete stop to all circuses and funfairs - although I know this choice is not on offer. In addition to our very considerable objection to the ongoing circuses and funfair (apologies for the repetition but we can not stre!ss the inconvenience caused quite enough), I have three further objections to the proposals: Firstly, the scheme does not seem to be about Finsbury Park but about generating income for other parks in the borough. I think it is unfair to inconvenience residents in the Finsbury Park area further in order to generate revenue for other, less popular parks. Secondly the rationale for creating a website and a guide did not seem to be justified. The reason given - other boroughs do it - seems insufficient. If there is a clear rationale for this action, such as reduction of costs in other areas, then this should just be actioned and would not require additional funds from extra Finsbury Park events. Thirdly the proposals give the residents some input but next to no real power. I would propose that further genuine veto and powers are given to residents on events. Allied to this, I feel that a door drop with information about events is simply a waste of money and time, those whoare interested will know about the events and those who are not will ignore the leaflets. I do appreciate your need to generate incomes for the preservation of the park and I do wish you best of luck in your existing work and to develop on these on very specific events in collaboration with residents. However the expansion of the events for large multi-day concerts as well as additional funfairs and circuses would have a very detrimental impact on the residents of the area.

Dear Sirs Although we have lived in this area for over 25 years and have enjoyed a variety of concerts including the Sex Pistols the extent (rubbish everywhere, parking restrictions, front gardens used as urinals, inability to use local facilities such as shops, pubs etc. etc.) and length of the disruption, not least to wildlife, caused by last year's Stone Rose's 2-day concert was horrendous, not to mention the cost of the tickets being prohibitive. How on earth can you equate your stated aims of: "The changes aim to: • ensure that events held in Finsbury Park are well managed to minimise their impact on

landscaping, other park visitors and neighbours • allow access to parks for a range of community events • develop a programme of park events and activities that have minimal impact • hold a programme of commercial events whose income enables us to continue to maintain and improve our parks" with s!uggesting that you increase by over 3x the amount of time such a valued and unique recreational area is handed over to commercial concerns? Finsbury Park is not a Council cash cow i.e. a concert venue and your proposals are an insult to those of us who live in and love Finsbury Park. I really cannot better the comments already submitted by the Friends of Finsbury Park, namely: 1. We believe in sustainable, varied and considerate use of the Park and that industrial-scale commercial concerts cause significant damage, disruption and distress to the park, its users and neighbours. We also believe that park revenue should come from facilities and services that are accessible and affordable for all. 2. We don't believe that Finsbury Park should have revenue targets as the main purpose of a public park is to provide recreational opportunities for the local community. And we don't think that Finsbury Park should be touted around as a concert venue to subsid!ise other council spending or to support all Haringey's other parks. 3. The council never properly consulted on the current 2002 policy (which permits five large scale commercial events per year) so the basis of the current consultation is flawed. We do not believe that Finsbury Park should be an asset or venue to be touted around to various events organisers, who will use the park without the park users' best interests at heart. 4. The council has not consulted on the increased income target of £165,000 to be generated from events in Finsbury Park. We have concerns around whether this is a reasonable and sustainable target for our public space, particularly as none of this income goes back into the park - see point 5 – and given the state of the park following recent events. 5. The council's events policy only allows for additional income to be invested back into the park – that's income over and above the council 0s target. We believe that all income generated from the park should be reinvested into the park. The proposed policy worsens the situation further for Finsbury Park as it plans to share any additional income across all parks in the borough. Furthermore as the park, users and local residents - not to mention wildlife - will bear the brunt of these events it does not seem equitable that funds should be expended elsewhere. 6. The existing policy allows for five 1-day large events. The new policy allows for six 3-day large events – taking the total permitted from 5 days to 18 days. Adding in set up and take down time of 1-2 weeks per event, that's 6-12 weeks per year that park users cannot use more than half of the park.Furthermore, it is estimated that the 2-day Stone Roses concert generated revenues in excess of £6.5m for SJM Ltd, with the council receiving £130,000.Using the same calculations, two 2-day events could raise £260,000 for the c!ouncil - well in excess of the £165k revenue target. And proving the need for six 3-day events excessive. 7. Not only does this show that the council has already entered into an agreement which is in breach of its existing policy, it also shows that concerts will have to take up more room than they have previously to allow for the extra 10,000 attendees per concert. So even more of the park that users won't have access to. 8. The point that park users will still have an area the size of Clissold Park to use is invalid. Park users live, and have chosen to live, near Finsbury Park and our council taxes should allow us to benefit from this park – all year round. 9. We don't feel that it is possible to host a community festival on top of all the other proposed events. Even with perfect weather the park would not recover in time for the next event, rendering significant areas of the park as 'no-go' areas for much, if not, all of summer 2014 Furtherto the above, we know that the council has already received applications from SJM Ltd and Live Nation for three 2-day events between May and July 2014 with 50,000 attendees on each day. We therefore feel that this consultation is already destined to be found to approve the five day policy as well as the revenue target, rather than be a true consultation.

Events are very inconvenient to local residents. Their number should not be increased

Finsbury park events Haringey's consultation document about Finsbury park states on the front the council is looking to find new ways of managing events in Finsbury park. The reality in the detail is that Haringey simply wants to stage more events. Perhaps a bit cynical but perhaps Haringey is simply trying to earn more through its park to make up for cuts imposed elsewhere thanks to coalition cuts to council funding. We live south of Finsbury park in Alexandra grove. In Hackney. We have no political/democratic representation in Haringey. All major events in Finsbury Park take place on the south side, extremely close to the densest population around the park itself. Every big event, and I'd include some of the fun fairs in this, deprives us of transport, peace and quiet, the ability to live in iur homes and enjoy opening windows and doors and get a break from our busy working lives. The big summer concert last June left us with excrement, urine, vomit and rubbish in o!ur front gardens and a string of petty vandalism. We shouldn't have to suffer this and along with the noise blight, it's selfish and unfair that this should be imposed on us. If a party in a house created the same noise and nuisance the council and police would be able to close it down. A council, seemingly, can do what it likes with impunity and exploit an inadequate and poor legislation that is our licensing act. The council seems to be proposing regular and large events and these will all take place on the south side of the park. I doubt if any of the decision makers from Haringey, the cabinet, live anywhere near where we do because if they did I suspect they'd be worried about the impact of more events a year. It's a park, not a concert venue and events held I think should be inclusive and benefit the surrounding communities and should take into account the needs of residents who are directly affected. Picture this..... You're sitting at traffic lights, windows open as !its warm and a car pulls up alongside. From out of this car comes loud, loud music. You put your windows up thinking its a way to escape. No chance. The booming goes on and means you have to switch off your own car radio. The only escape is when the lights change. That's what it's like when a big concert takes place in the park. We have no choice but to listen. We can't open doors and with doors shut there's still no getting away from it. This last summer we had very little notice from a patronising flyer put through our doors so making our escape was difficult due to work commitments. The flyer promised little if any disruption but this was clearly a load of nonsense. On noise grounds alone it impacted our are - Alexandra grove.does a great job of funnelling the sound. Transport on a Friday night was mayhem and unable to cope and the only beneficiaries were the promoter,the artists, the council and those from miles away who attended. There needs to be balance and fairnes!s but I think, despite the consultation what the council wants to do the council will do. What is clear is that its selfish and unfair for Haringey to simply impose its will on residents of Hackney when we have no democratic representation in Haringey. In short, we can't do anything to vote you in or out but we have to live with your decisions regardless. The demographic of our surroundings have changed enormously in the ten years we've lived here and it's even more inappropriate for the park to continue with big events. Just to say that Haringey wants to earn more money from park rental is to deny us a right to a quiet and family life and for the purpose of the park to be changed from park to music and events venues. Wrong, unfair and unnecessary. If Haringey wants music venues ask Spurs to rent White Hart lane, use Alexandra palace which is firmly in your borough! or head south to the Emirates. But please don't inflict more noise, anti social behaviour and vandalism on theclosest residences. The first point on the consultation refers to increasing the number of large events and also increasing the durations of these events. This is worryingly vague and doesn't tell us whether this will be at weekends (when we should have a chance to relax in the way we chose) and it's hard to know how we'll be able to live sensibly with a large three day event going on on our doorstep. And then another one for two days and so on. Haringey is asking for carte blance to do what it likes when it likes irrespective of the quality of life for us. On a normal working day the transport infrastructure at Finsbury Park station creaks because of the new housing, new colleges etc etc. As a council I would have thought you'd have to have some sympathy and consideration for local residents and see it from our point of view. I'd be happy to explain our thoughts to cabinet members and if any of cabinet would like to see how close events are to us they'd be very welcome. Haringey must spare a thought for us living on the south side of the park. Events, particularly the big concerts have a massive detrimental affect on what we can do and how we

live. Even the funfair PA bellows across our outdoor spaces in the summer.

Finsbury Park exists first and foremost for the people living nearby to enjoy green space and the outdoors and a bit of tranquillity in an urban setting. The season of good weather when it can be best enjoyed is short enough without the bulk of the park being given over to crowds, litter, and ugly barricades. The offer of £20,000 to improve parks (not even this park!) is derisory given the likely income from six multi-day events - it's a poor deal for people in Finsbury Park, I'd much rather keep access to my local park throughout the summer. If people want to go to a summer festival, there are plenty of them outside London where green space and quiet are not so scarce that people can't afford to give them up for a while.

Finsbury park is a great space which is why i haven't ticked any improvements as for me it is a wonderful place when there are no events. i dread the circus and fun fair. Currently it seems to work that when there is a fair at Finsbury there isn't one at Clissold Park. I hope that continues so that there is always some green space in peace.

Finsbury Park is a green space, designed as an oasis of comparative calm from the continual noise and stress of city life. Here people can 'escape' and chill out for a while. Holding live music events, funfairs and the like serves only to destroy the very reasons it was created in the first place

Finsbury Park is a wonderful park and the main thing is to minimise the impact that events have on local residents. I'd love to see some of the revenue generated kept back for the park itself.

For events such a the concerts that happened this year I would suggest that the Oxford Road gate is closed during the afternoon before the concerts therefore encouraging people to enter and exit through the main gates on seven sisters road where there is easy access to the tube stations. This summer there were dangerous numbers of people in the residential streets around stroud green road and the police were overstretched and unable to address any issues that arose.

good idea

Happy for a circus to be added to the list of events but this would need to have no animals used as part of the acts

I already find the long periods of setting up and taking down of events to be excessive, and the Park should perhaps look at charging a fitting rate for the use of such extensive property and depriving the local community of full use of the Park.

I am appalled by the strong emphasis on the financial aspect of this proposal. Implicitly then, should there be further cuts in the Council's budget, it may mean that if this increase is accepted, any time there is a cut in the budget, there may be further proposals to increase the number of events and/or people even more.

I am concerned about regulation of large vehicles involved in setting up large events. At previous events I have seen huge trucks, fork-lifts etc being driven around at pretty high speeds largely unrestricted. This seems to me very dangerous with so many pedestrians (many of which are children or dog walkers) and cyclists also using the same areas before they are closed off for the event itself.

I am in favour of having considerably more than 6 events... I hadn't even noticed that there were 5 events and I live on Woodstock road. Let's crank it up and bring some money into the area.

I am in favour of locally-organised and run events; the number of events limited to five; and a commitment that some of the profit is returned to Finsbury Park for replacement planting and repairs and remediation.

I am pleased to see the council values events large and small at Finsbury, and elsewhere in the borough open spaces, as offering both cultural activities for the local community and also a revenue for maintaing the parks and open spaces managed by the council and understand the basis of the new management proposals. However Item 4 on the document confuses me when it states that circus will be included alongside fairs and increase the number of visits from three to four? Doesn't this already happen with the Zippo visit and the annual fairs? I am not sure if this means there will be an extra fair or indeed an extra circus? I wonder if you would be kind enough to clarify? I am always slightly uneasy when councils link circus and fairs together especially in public consultation exercises, as whilst there are similarities such as both being travelling concserns and both provide welcome entertainment for the community there are subtle differences that are important when l!ocal people are asked to consider circus/fair visits. Circuses attract more of a family audience with parents, guardians and grandparents bringing children, fairs are more often than not visited largely by adolescent, teenage and younger people. A circus like Zippos has well-managed crowd control by virtue of ticket admission and the audience located in the one area - the Big Top. A fair spread over a larger area has less control on the movement of the public. Music associated with the circus is again restricted to the one place in the Big Top, a fair may have music attached to all major rides and in the open air. I only raise these points as in a public consultation it is easy for members of the local community to confuse the two entertainments and objections can be raised in terms of noise poluttion for example that are not relevant to the circus but may be in regards to a fair.

I am strongly against any new events and any changes to the current situation. I would like the council to put a plan together to reduce the current number of events and show more consideration to the residents.

I am strongly against the park being used a revenue generator. It is a precious local resource and should be treated as such. No more events, especially those that prevent use of the park for days at a time.It is our park!

I am strongly opposed to any increase in the time and space given over to events. I say this as someone who often attends and always enjoys concerts that take place in the park. However, it is very apparent what a burden it places on the park and how intrusive it is for other park users. If there is a need for greater revenue then I would propose increasing the fees for the existing days allowed. Regardless, the fabric of the park is in disrepair (the drainage, the

paths, the gardens) and more events would place even greater stress on them.

I am very much against any more festivals that involve music with amplification in the park. The noise we have to put up with, half a mile away, is intrusive and unwanted.

I am very strongly against the increase of events in Finsbury Park. I live quite close to the park and the noise on event weekends is loud. In the summer, sitting in the garden is almost impossible. Apart from that, litter is a big problem. The park has been filthy for up to a week after a concert.

I AM WHOLLY OPPOSED TO THE PROPOSED OUTDOOR EVENTS POLICY. IT WILL LEAD TO WHOLLY UNACCEPTABLE LEVELS OF DISRUPTION TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, INCREASED CRIME AND A LOSS OF A VALUABLE AMENITY. THIS WOULD ALL BE TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF THE WIDER COMMUNITY, INCLUDING CHILDREN

I am worried about the impact on the park.

I assume whatever I write here will have no effect as the term 'Consultation" is used lightly and you are unlikely to change your mind. I would like to add that I do not think you have consulted properly as I have heard about this by word-of-mouth and not through what I would regard as proper channels. I live near Fisnbury park and have not had any letters from the Council about this proposal

I believe in sustainable, varied and considerate use of the Park and that industrial-scale commercial concerts cause significant damage, disruption and distress to the park, its users and neighbours. I also believe that park revenue should come from facilities and services that are accessible and affordable for all. I don't believe that Finsbury Park should have revenue targets - the main purpose of a public park is to provide recreational opportunities for the local community. And I don't think that Finsbury Park should be touted around as a concert venue to subsidise other council spending or to support all Haringey's other parks. There was no proper consultation on the current 2002 policy (which permits five large scale commercial events per year) so the basis of the current consultation is flawed. I do not believe that Finsbury Park should be an asset or venue to be touted around to various events organisers, who will use the park withoutthe park users' best interests at heart. The council has not consulted on the increased income target of £165,000 to be generated from events in Finsbury Park. I have concerns around whether this is a reasonable and sustainable target for our public space, particularly as none of this income goes back into the park - see point below – and given the state of the park following recent events. The council's events policy only allows for additional income to be invested back into the park – that's income over and above the council's target. I believe that all income generated from the park should be reinvested into the park. The proposed policy worsens the situation further for Finsbury Park as it plans to share any additional income across all parks in the borough. Furthermore as the park, users and local residents - not to mention wildlife - will bear the brunt of these events it does not seem equitable that funds shoul!d be expended elsewhere. The existing policy allows for five 1-day large events. The new policy allows for six 3-day large events – taking the total permitted from 5 days to 18 days. Adding in set up and take down time of 1-2 weeks per event, that's 6-12 weeks per year that park users cannot use more than half of the park. Furthermore, it is estimated that the 2-day Stone Roses concert generated revenues in excess of £6.5m for SJM Ltd, with the council receiving £130,000. Using the same calculations, two 2-day events could raise £260,000 for the council - well in excess of the £165k

revenue target. And proving the need for six 3-day events excessive. Not only does this show that the council has already entered into an agreement which is in breach of its existing policy, it also shows that concerts will have to take up more room than they have previously to allow for the extra 10,000 attendees per concert. So even more of the park th!at users won't have access to. The point that park users will still have an area the size of Clissold Park to use is invalid. Park users live, and have chosen to live, near Finsbury Park and our council taxes should allow us to benefit from this park – all year round. I don't feel that it is possible to host a community festival on top of all the other proposed events. Even with perfect weather the park would not recover in time for the next event, rendering significant areas of the park as 'no-go' areas for much, if not, all of summer 2014 Further to the above, I know that the council has already received applications from SJM Ltd and Live Nation for three 2-day events between May and July 2014 with 50,000 attendees on each day. I therefore feel that this consultation is already destined to be found to approve the five day policy as well as the revenue target, rather than be a true consultation.

I cycle in the park, including passing through twice a day on my commute and I would like something in the policy about maintaining access to and through the park for cyclists. A park is a open green space to provide respite from the congestion of city life. I completely oppose using parks for large scale commercial concerts – as I cannot see how they satisfy any of the objectives of a park - a park should be a tranquil space free from noise, pollution and congestion, a space to play and exercise. Increasing the number of events will increase the number of days much of the park is not available to use for locals, and much longer if the setup/takedown days are included.

I did not receive notification of the consultation through my door. Victoria Rd

I do miss the old community events. They made such a difference to the feel of Harringey

I do not support the council increasing the number of commercial events in the park. I appreciate that time are hard economically but the greatest asset of Finsbury Park is its availability to the local population. As it is, summer events mean that there are too frequent weekends when the park is not available to be enjoyed simply as a park. Fun fairs, circuses and concerts are welcome in limited numbers, but not so that the park becomes to all intents and purposes a commercial venue. Let them go to O2.

I don't mind if events are longer (e.g. Over a weekend instead of a day), but overall I don't think their numbers should go up as they really disrupt the use of the park for residents.

I don't support these proposals. The park should not be seen as a resource for raising money for Haringey.

I fully support all daytime activities, but I am 100% against music concerts and other events that result in excessive noise after 9pm (the last concert was terribly loud; I could here the music (on a weeknight) until almost midnight and I live 10 minutes from the park.

I have also written to Parks.

I have read with dismay the above consultation. First of all, I pay a considerable amount of council tax each year. It is not just income from events in the park which should finance Finsbury Park's upkeep. Each council tax payer is contributing towards the upkeep of Haringey's parks. Four income streams are mentioned. How much income is raised from the fairs, circus, charity fun runs, Newroz? There is no mention of letting out the hard-standing for filming, which seems to happen on a regular basis, the letting out of the internal road for parking for international matches at Arsenal, British Military Fitness twice-weekly or the regular running that now takes place on Saturday mornings. No mention is made about income from the athletics track or from either community spaces. We need to know how much is actually currently raised from all these areas. How much was actually raised from the Stone Roses concert in June? Was the income raised really wo!rth us losing half the park in the summer? Does Haringey Council now think parks should be financed by large events? An arbitrary figure of £165,000.00 has been mentioned as an income target. What is this based on? Nowhere in this proposition does it itemise the expense to the council of allowing these events to happen. These costs are not drawn from the income target that is cited, but from the tax-payer's pocket. In effect, this proposal is asking Haringey residents to indirectly contribute towards this absurd target by the staging of events that they don't want in the first place. How much money is currently being spent on the park? The park is in a shocking state. All the beds particularly around the McKenzie garden are covered in weeds. The beds themselves are a disgrace. The lake is covered in green algae. Grass is encroaching on all the paths. The McKenzie garden and the lake were restored, not with Haringey money, but with Lottery fun!ds. All Haringey Council had to do was to keep it in a good state, which it has categorically failed to do. This shouldn't need extra funding. There is no evidence that any of the income from the Stone Roses concert has been spent on the park since the concert in June. It is proposed that £20,000 per annum would be set aside from the events income. As far as I'm aware, no one has been clamouring for free community events, funded by letting out the park for massive events. Income from Finsbury Park would go towards other parks in Haringey. Why? Most of the effect of these huge events attracting 49,000 people to Finsbury Park falls on people from Islington and Hackney. Why should they put up with considerable inconvenience to finance other parks in Haringey? Sport seems to have a much lower priority for Haringey Council. Clissold Park applied successfully a few years ago to upgrade their tennis facilities and create new courts. They havenot needed to run huge events in order to do so. No mention is made either of current facilities, despite the fact that obesity is on the rise and there is a real need to encourage activity at every age. The attached map showing the size of Clissold Park is specious. In the remaining space (the size of Clissold Park), there is a lake, a cafe, and (as I've said earlier) a very boggy area to the north of the lake, a fenced-off area to the the east of the cafe, an athletics track, a road, the hard-standing (which was completely taken over during the Stone Roses concert), the bowling-club. The best bit of the park in the summer is where the concert was held Wouldn't it be a good idea to estimate the footfall in Finsbury Park in summer? I would be interested in knowing this. Finsbury Park is an extremely heavily-used park, especially in the summer. Why should it be given over to huge events when it is most needed? I don't see how the park ca!n be used for 6 x 3 day events with two weeks set up and seven day taking down time without eating into holiday time. The park is not for events. It provides outside space for the people of Haringey, Islington and Hackney. The only part of the year people would want our park is the summer. That is when local people want to be in the park. We need the park for our children, for our health and for our general well-being. Haringey Council is treating its council-tax payers with disdain, even by putting forward these proposals. And what about the Stone Roses concert? Was this really such a success that everyone is clamouring for Finsbury Park? There was absolutely no consultation with residents. The meeting I went to at the Town Hall was a joke. I couldn't use Finsbury Park tube during the concert. I couldn't get near it. Concert goers urinated into Stroud Green School, the policing was at the very best inadequate.

The park was dangerous with heavy lorries using th!e road. But the very worst was the lack of park available during a hot summer. In order to take part in this consultation, we need figures. How much is raised by one event such as The Stone Roses. What is raised from other smaller regular events and one off events. How much does it cost to police an event such as The Stone Roses? Why £165,000? Why £20,000 for community events? How much does Haringey Council spend each year on Finsbury Park's maintenance? In summary, Finsbury Park should not be used as a cash cow for Haringey Council.

I hope very much that you will restrict use of our park for outdoor events - the park should not be used to raise revenue for Haringey and any improvements needed in the park itself should be a matter for local communities - there is probably a lot we can do ourselves. It's bad enough having the arsenal, now you want to turn our park into a huge stadium. Is there no area that isn't to be turned into a noisy, money making area.

I live on the Seven Sisters Road, opposite the park. While the Stone Roses concerts this summer were a novelty, they would not remain so if there were to be 6 events of this size each year. They were a huge disruption to transport, the local area, noise, rubbish etc. Residents chose to live near Finsbury Park because it is a park, not a music venue.

I never hear about the events that are going on in the park and it would be great to be able to sign up for alerts for example for community events, biking activity, markets in the park - in Finsbury Park and other parks. It would be nice to hear the concerts that are taking place early and before sales take place so we can buy some.

I oppose any increase not only in the number of events but also (and possibly more so) an increase in the length time they go on for

I oppose your plan to increase the number of events to raise money. This will have an adverse impact on the park and locality and will increase crime and antisocial behaviour when the events are taking place. Your plans will reduce the availability of the park for most residents and will increase the amount of debris and litter in the Park. You have not put any thought into how this will impact the local community and I strongly oppose your plans.

I strongly disagree with the proposals. They will affect the value and quality of life I have in my own home.

I strongly object to the use of the park as a money raising resource for Haringey. It should be used primarily as an amenity for local residents - respecting the relatively peaceful residential nature of the area. The proposals threaten to make the park a disadvantage to living in the Finsbury Park area.

I strongly object to your plans to increase the number of concerts in Finsbury Park, specifically in the part of the park next to the Finsbury Park Station adn the entrance gate, due to the following reasons: 1) it represents a significant safety issue. Each concert causes a massive rise in crime in the area- for instance the concert of the Stone Roses in August 2013 resulted in the park being ranked as one of the top 10 worst crime-ridden hotspots in the country for that month! As a resident of that area, I am completely unhappy to be subjected to the increased risk of threats, robbery, and presence of intoxicated individuals 2)it creates significant damage to the park and the surrounding areas outside the park- damaged grass and other plants, people urinating on the streets, mountains of garbage are just some of the inconviences caused. 3) it will certainly result in the decrease of the market value of my property. I

already get enquiries from friends who are cons!idering moving into this area about how frequently the events take place in the park, and if the frequency of these events increases, the area will be less attractive for prospective buyers adn tenants. I reserve my right to raise further objections.

I strongly oppose the proposed changes for a multitude of reasons Firstly, crime skyrockets during large scale events such as music concerts and there is already a police report circulating which outlines the devastating effects of those events Secondly, there is no guarantee that the additional events held will not be noisy or produce bright lights in the evenings which can be highly disagreeable for those living directly opposite the park Thirdly, the estimated income is not solely going to be used for the maintenance of Finsbury Park but other parks as well. In which case why not hold these events on those other parks?

I strongly support the use of Finsbury Park for events. However I strong disagree with the proposal to use funds raised through these events to subsidise other parks. Not only will an increase in usage mean more investment is needed to maintain it as it is currently, it will also increase the cost of cleaning up etc (e.g. most recent concert by Stone Roses- significant impact locally- rubbish etc). I do not see why, if Finsbury park holds these events, that all funds raised should be invested in any other park.

I support the use of the park for well managed activites but the impact of large events on the park is terrible. The level of litter escalates when the fair is on and nearly all events appear inadequately managed - especially due to insufficient clear up staff. I would like to see substantial improvements to the park following each event, especially to gardens and planting, including increased gardeners and playground maintenance workers so that local people can see tat the park actually benefits from events. It s shocking how little money the council receives from huge concert promoters.

I think any money generated in finsbury park, should stay in finsbury park, it is the residents of the area that have to put up with the hassle that comes with the events therefore the money should be used to benefit them. I disagree with increasing the number of events, for those of us living near the stations, we already have football matches, concerts in the Emirates stadium and finsbury park to contend with. I think when deciding whether or not to allow an event should look at how the organiser has run previous events e.g. The organiser of the Rolling Stones concerts did not provide enough toilets, should they want to run another event, they should be held to account on this I strongly feel that money generated in finsbury park should be spent in finsbury park or the finsbury park area.

I think it's good there are things happening. With proper management of events this can only add to the attractiveness of the area, of course bad management can make it worse. I hope for the best!

I think LB H should be charging more for the use of the park. I am a limited user of Finsbury Park but I think this level of disruption should be offset by increased charges.

I wish to object to the proposed changes to the running of events at Finsbury Park. 1. It is highly likely that the events will all take place on the Seven Sisters Road side of the Park being located either at the main gate or at an area that is currently used by people to play football. The residents in the area

who will be affected by the over amplified music and noise (10,000 people are capable of generating a great deal of noise) etc are non-Haringey residents living on the Seven Sisters Road. Up to now these people have received scant attention from the council. On the question of siting events, it is interesting that the large area of flat land bounded by Endymion Road and Green Lanes is never used for events; probably because it is too close to Haringey residents' homes and may invite a political backlash at local elections. 2. The talk of increasing the number of events to 6 per year is of concern. Events will be held in the better months s!o it would suggest a time frame from April to September – so no peace during the Summer for us, the unrecognised stakeholders in the Park. 3. The idea about using funds from the events I believe is misplaced. The amount of damage to the natural surfaces in the Park due to the pressure of people attending will outweigh the income and reduce the level of investment in any other Parks and funds for community activities. Perhaps the donors of the several million pounds used to improve Finsbury Park in recent years should consider asking the Council to return the money given.

i would like to see more protection of the children's play areas during events. this means people patrolling not just a bit of red and white tape. after the last concerts, litter and cigarette ends were all over the sand pit. my fear is for broken glass and it being used as a toilet

I would like to see the noisy drumming group banned from the park, as they disrupt the peace and quiet almost every weekend with their irritating noise pollution, particularly when they are outside. Surely this selfish group already contravenes existing bye-laws?

If Haringey is going to go ahead, they should be sure to MAXIMISE the income generated. Haringey should give weight to Friends of Finsbury Park. It is difficult to anser some of the questions as in, I wouldn't mind 6 events a year but not if they were two day events and never if they were three. Perhaps your question should have said '6 days a year' Similarly, is the funfair included in the events or is it in addition. There is no opportunity to to replace one of the funfair days by a circus, which I think I would prefer. It is difficult to make decisions unless you know how much needs to be spent on the park and how much income can be genrated by events.

I'll use this column to make comment about some lack of info in your proposals. I'm not sure if I'm understanding how the income generated by Finsbury park events will be used. You are proposing that any additional income from the park should be also used for maintenance etc in other parks as well but you are failing to address the general funding of Finsbury park. I have been living in Haringey for 9 years and in particular have been visiting Finsbury park during the past 5 years and have been living in the immediate area of the park for the past 3 years but the only thing I have observed throughout all this time is a continuing decline in services and maintenance in the park. Does the council fund any of the park's requirements or is it only the income generated by the park that funds its own existence? If the latter is the case I would definitely not support the usage of money generated by Finsbury Park events to be assigned to other parks maintenance program. In !the case that a research is conducted and there is an agreed amount that sufficiently serves the needs of the park in order for it to operate in the high standards that were met 4 and 5 years ago then I do agree for the surplus income to be allocated to the needs of other parks and areas in the borough. Finally I do believe that the council has to increase the importance of public spaces and parks in the borough and allocate sufficient funds from its annual budget for the maintenance of these spaces. The council should not only base the funding and maintenance of parks on the income generated by them but actively include them in the main curriculum of the budget and practically add value to the life of its citizens.

I'll_considered and woefully communicated. Try filling in the gaps in information before asking the public's opinion. The proposals offer far too wide a

variation and scope for the event promoters.

Increasing the number of events to 6 per is of concern. Events held in the better months (good weather) means no peace to the residents who live around the park. The amount of damage to the natural surfaces in the park far outweigh the income generate from the events, look at Hyde Park!

Is this plan in line with the three borrow finsbury park accord?

It has recently come to my attention that there are plans to increase the number of events to be held within the park at Finsbury Park. As a resident at Sunflower Court, Seven Sisters road, I feel this is going to have a huge negative impact due to the noise generated by these events and as a result a poor quality of life experienced for myself and the many residents living in this area. I have experienced unacceptably high noise levels during this summer - we already have to put up with the busy road. Blaring loudspeakers are not something anybody wishes for right on their doorstep. These events will also cause untold damage to the grass with huge numbers of people trampling through. I would like to register my rejection to these plans and look forward to your response regarding these plans.

It has to respect wildlife habitat and park kept clean after events

It is a disgrace that you make money from these outdoor events, yet run down Finsbury Park, grotesquely reduce staffing levels, allow vagrants to sleep rough in the Richard Hope area, and close Jamboree.

It is hard enough on the Park to have large scale events. To increase the frequency is damaging, but to increase the length of each, is even worse, You propose six large events during the summer - the Park will not be able to recover, and will become permanently damaged. Your comments about Clissold Park are extraordinary - this is wholly irrelevant. Finsbury Park is a treasure for Haringey, created for people to enjoy plants and trees over a hundred years. Comparisons with other parks in other boroughs has no bearing on decisions for Haringey. Finally, the proposal to divert funds raised by events away from Finsbury Park are shocking. All the money raised should go to repairs and improvements for the Park, because it is sorely needed.

Just remember that residents must be thought off better and listened to

Large events are very disruptive and often very unpleasant (we live near the park). They should be kept to an absolute minimum or stopped entirely. Public transport becomes difficult to use if not impossible and road transport is messed up as well. The area becomes a rubbish heap and local streets are used as public lavatories. One should not have to argue one's way through a Police cordon to get to one's home as happened during the horrid Stone Roses concerts last year. Events in Finsbury Park (if allowed at all) must co-ordinate with matches at events at the Emirates Stadium. Matches and rock concerts at the Emirates affect Finsbury Park Station badly and have an effect on local roads as well (although not as bad as events in Finsbury Park). Residents suffer from both and it is possible that we could have to endure disruption virtually every weekend during the suffer. Increases at either venue must not be allowed and co-ordination is required. Finally-two wee!ks notice of large and disruptive events is not enough. We cannot invite guests for dinner for

instance when a large event is planned. If we have booked for theatre or concerts we have to make alternative travel plans to avoid disrupted travel. We need as much notice as possible: months not weeks! I cannot stress enough just how nasty and disruptive large events in Finsbury Park are for us.

Large events last year left the park in a bad state afterwards and there were significant issues with toilet facilities with lots of event-goers urinating around the park. Toilet and litter facilities need to be significantly improved for ALL large events.

Large events such as the Stone Roses concert earlier this year are hugely disruptive to the local residents. Large parts of the park are inaccessible not only preceding and during but after (The park stunk of urine for days after the Roses gig and the litter in the surrounding streets was terrible). There is a huge increase in noise not just from the event itself but from people leaving - (this can be particularly bad). Please consider local families and try to remember that the Park is park. Not a venue.

Money grabbing at the cost of the local population

more concerts seem fine

More than happy to see Finsbury Park used more intensively, including for a variety of events and concerts, so long as there is a continued focus on making sure the Park does not suffer lasting damage as a result. On circuses, would definitely not want to see captive animals as part of the "show", if that is even still allowed.

My concerns as a resident who lives seconds from the park are around access to the park while events are being set up, noise pollution while they are going on, crowd control and clean up operations. The park was a mess after the Stone Roses concert this summer. The state of the playground was appalling and extremely dangerous. The park is incredibly well used by local people and I would hate to see a situation where we were excluded from 'our' park.

My issues are the following - The planned revenue arrangements of using Finsbury Park to subsidise all Harringeys spending in the rest of the borough is immoral. The park is situated in a very fractured area where three boroughs meet, meaning park users and those impacted by these events are drawn from a variety of places other than Haringey. This is especially acute given that arguable the most affected residents of this anti-social policy are Hackney residents on Seven Sisters Road. - The revenue target model of deciding on how funds are redistributed seems completely inadequate. There is so much room for manipulation that I am surprised it even exists. The council could simply deliberately set an extremely high target to ensure all profits will return to central coffers. If anything this model is the converse of what should exist- the default should be spending on Finsbury Park before a transparently decided overspill amount being given to Haringey as a borough co!uncil. - The current funfair situation is not satisfactory, and does not bring nearly enough income to warrant taking such a substantial area of the park out of commission. Local clubs wishing to use that space cannot for several very long periods of time, with the consequent damage to grass extending way beyond the time the funfair visits. - Taking applications for licenses from Live Nation prior to running this residents consultation shows the complete disregard with which the council holds its and nearby councils residents in. This gives the

impression the outcome has already been decided and that Haringey are simply running this consultation as a rubber-stamping process.

My main issue with events in the past is Haringey council's complete inability to implement adequate noise nuisance controls on large events in the past. Also inadequate controls regarding crowds outside the park and excessive alcohol consumption. Also disappointed whith inadequate response when make complaints. Any controls in the policy will be rendered null and void if there is a failure to implement

NO MORE ROWDY EVENTS IN FINSBURY PARK. KEEP THE STREETS CLEAR AND OPEN AT ALL TIMES.

Objection to the proposal for the management of events at Finsbury Park Dear sir/mdm I am writing in to object to the proposal for the increase of events at Finsbury Park and I append below my points below:- 1. Residents in the area will be affected by the over amplified music and noise i.e.10,000 people are capable of generating a great deal of noise. 2. 6 events in a year, mostly in the good months (April – September) deprive the residents of peace during those good months. 3. Amount of damage to the natural surfaces in the Park due to the events held will far more outweigh the income generated. Please look at Hyde Park. 4. It was reported that reported crimes of anti-social behaviours increased during the time when events were held at Finsbury Park. Increase of events will increase such crimes.

Outdoor events create a huge negative impact on the regular park users and nearby residents and businesses. The council should not allow events to be staged at the park unless all costs for preparation, staging, policing, clean-up and any remedial actions are funded by the event itself. Council should not use any of its own funds or resources for the events.

Parks are areas provided that enhance the environment and are intended to be used by residents and visitors for pleasure and CERTAINLY NOT for commercial purposes and income generating.

Please DO NOT add more events to the park and increase visitor numbers to events. The park is already barely managing with rubish issues (particularly over the summer the main field is literally a field of rubbish). Focus should be on maintaining the quality of the wildlife and the pond (have you seen the state of the algae?) and the overall quality of the park as a local wildlife centre.

Please do not allow events that cause the kind of social disruption and noise levels caused by the Stone Roses concert, which was a complete nightmare for local residents!

Please do not restrict access further. The park is a very important community space that historically has always been there for the enrichment of local lives. The immediate area is very family orientated making safe and convenient use of the park very important to local residents

Please ensure there are more toilets at events and that police enforce drugs laws more

Please leave the park alone. I do not want more events.

Plz do anything possible to reduce the level of noise.

RE: Response to consultation - Outdoor Events Policy for Finsbury Park Dear Sir/Madam This note is in response to the proposal published about managing outdoor events in Finsbury Park. 1. Under proposal 1, both the number of large events and the duration of those large events is proposed to change to expand from five events to six events, up to three days in duration. As most of these events will be weekends, perhaps in late spring and summer, then this impacts significantly on the quiet enjoyment of the park and on the peace of the neighbourhoods adjoining the park, at a time when many residents themselves want to use local amenities, including transport links. What, if any, compensation proposals are proposed for the local residents beyond those already proposed (i.e., revenue generation for parks upkeep) ? 2. Under proposal 2, the licensing process will determine event attendance numbers. I would like to understand which licensing process will be employed to !make this decision, in order to know how local voices will be taken in to account when a decision is made. 3. Under proposal 3, the event planning process will determine the final area for an event. Is it not appropriate to have the final area for large events determined by the licensing process proposed under proposal 2, as these two factors - maximum numbers and the agreed area of park segmented for large event use - are clearly interdependent. 4. Under proposal 4, it is proposed to consider funfairs and circuses as "visits", to a maximum of four per year. The overall document is not clear about the total number of maximum events per annum. The distinction between a) large events b) funfairs and circuses ("visits") and c) anything else is unclear. I would like a clear statement of the total number of a) b) and c) per annum. 5. Under proposal 5, it is proposed that the additional income generated can be used in other parks in the borough as well as Finsbury Park. Thi!s statement is unclear and lacks the requisite detail in order to make an informed decision about whether or not to support the proposals. Further information required would include:- - total target annual gross income from these proposals - total target annual net income from these proposals - total forecast annual surplus from these proposals In principle, I am opposed to any surplus generated from events in Finsbury Park being spent on any other Local Authority services in the borough, other than on the park itself and in the Haringey wards adjacent to Finsbury Park. Furthermore, no mention is made of the additional environmental, safety and other costs associated with large events in the area which can be extremely disruptive. I would therefore request that after each large scale event a stakeholder meeting is held to seek views from local people on their experience of the event itself. 6. Under proposal 8, it is proposed to introduce a stakeholder meeting two mont!hs prior to any large event. Large events begin to be planned many months in advance; two months prior to each event is too short a timescale to be effective. I would propose that a stakeholder meeting is held at least three months ahead of each event, or two months whichever is the sooner after the licensing approval decision has been reached. 7. Under proposal 8, it is proposed to ask event organisers (of events over 10,000) to leaflet a defined area adjacent to Finsbury Park. I am unclear to what effect this leaflet drop is proposed. 8. No mention is made in the Outdoor Events policy proposals about the impact on local pubs, bars and shops that this policy will have. Inevitably, footfall to local pubs, bars and shops will increase as local business people seek to capitalise on many visitors to the area. How does the policy seek to address some of the anti-social behaviour experienced by local residents as a result of all-day drinking by visitors to large events in F!insbury Park. In particular, the area around Stroud Green Road/Station Place was used as a public toilet by event goers in 2013. How will increasing the number of large events and diverting revenue raised from these events to be spent in other parts of the borough assist with tackling anti-social behaviour ?

Residents around the park have to be well informed on the development, forthcoming events (i.e. including "have you say" before the events to outline maximum attendance for the events, the area for the events, etc).

Seems one of the few responses possible to the appalling restrictions on council funding

Similarly to many local residents, I am heartily sick of the disruption caused by large events in Finsbury Park. It is a PARK - not a concert arena - and totally unsuitable for such events, which due to setting up and clearing down, make large parts of it unavailable for up to a week at a time due to set up and clearing down activity.

Six events up to three days each make 18 days. As they all happen within three months in the summer that is up to 18 out of 90 days the park could be used for activities. You are asking for permission that one in five days in summer be used for activities with all the noise, rubbish, drunkenness and crowds this will entail. This is totally unacceptable to a long-time resident such as me.

Thank you for taking the time to consult residents.

Thanks for asking! It's been a while.

The consultation leaflet posted through our door stated 'We need to find new ways of managing events in Finsbury park.' Turn the page and the truth is that Haringey simply wants to stage more. Cynical maybe but I expect the plan is to try and make up for cash shortages caused by cuts in other areas thanks to the coalition government. Events in the park should be inclusive and respect the fact that its a park not a concert venue. The big concerts are a blight on the lives of all who live close by and as a resident of Hackney I have no say in who represents my interest in Haringey. If a private party made the noise that a 2 day concert made this last summer it would be closed down by both council and police as ant-social behaviour. Its strange that organised by a council, there seems to be a license to make noise and ruin summer evenings for those not interested in the concerts. After the 2 day concert last June, our road, Alexandra rd was vandalised, there was urine, vo!mit and excrement behind front garden walls and vandalism to some cars. Transport grinds to a halt as buses can't get through, Manor House is closed after 10 pm and so on. Its simply selfish and unfair to impose this on a population that lives largely in Hackney as the events are always in the south of Finsbury park. Large events like concerts simply benefit the artist, the promoter, Haringey council and those who've bought tickets. They do nothing for us locals, nothing. Events that are inclusive, benefit the WHOLE community around the park, don't blight the weekend lives of those that work hard and want some R n R, and these are all good, done in the right way. I doubt if any of your decision makers in cabinet live close to the park and have to literally evacuate their houses for the duration of a big event but it would be good if some consideration was given to the quality of life for Hackney residents who are quite literally in the front line. The leaflets put through o!ur doors by the promoters for the summer concert were patronising and dismissive in the extreme and demonstrated clearly that our interest were not uppermost in either their or Haringey's minds. In the summer, we should be able to open doors and windows, sit outside and have down time. Instead, we can have no choice but to try and shut ourselves away (doesn't work...) or lead town. Even the fun fair is a pain it has to be said, with someone yelling into his PA system exhorting his customers

to try one more ride. The demographic in Finsbury park and surroundings has changed immeasurably in the 10 years we've lived here. Its no longer appropriate to turn the park into a concert venue as so many more people live close by and are/will be affected by big events. If perhaps you could move big concerts onto the north side go the park that would help but above all we on the south side shouldn't be bulldozed by a council we have no say in and who should have the lives and welfare o!f people closest to the park foremost in their plans. I doubt if this consolation will make a difference and that Haringey is simply going through the motions. Maybe a cabinet member should talk to us and see just how close we are. Please keep Finsbury park just that, a park

The consultation questions are disingenuous as it implies an increase from 5 to 6 large events but there could potentially be 12 to 18 large event days whereas the cap is currently 5 large event days. The impact of large events on the local resident population is completely overlooked. The large number so f people attending has an impact on traffic, parking, ASB, crime, litter, noise and general nuisance. This was not well managed during the Stone Roses gigs last June. Residents should be involved in the event planning process from the point when an application is made. Events are likely to be at weekends. This means that six weekends between May and mid July (or early September) could occur, thus removing six weekends of space for local people during the summer. In other words half the weekends could see an event taking place. That's too many. In addition park space is lost for several days either side of an event for set up/dismantling of fences etc. The two Ston!e Roses gigs took out nine days of access to one of the most popular parts of the park. Event/organisers should meet all the additional costs of policing, cleaning, licensing, repairs to the park and local amenities etc. The fee charged must reflect the true costs to the community and to local tax payers. No mention is made of damage to the park (or local streets) by event attenders. This should not be overlooked. Damage to turf/grass, trees, signage etc is borne by local residents both in terms of lost amenity and in the costs of repair. The £165,000 gross income figure is paltry compared to the sums generated by large events. The two Stone Roses gigs generated £5,000,000 in ticket sales alone (plus merchandising and food franchises) and yet the council received around £100,000 (less than 2%) before its costs of cleaning and the impact on local people who gained no benefit. The council should be absolutely open about the charges to be levied and the co!sts to the council of hiring the park as well as policing, cleaning and other costs directly associated with it. For ticketed events the park rental charge should be a minimum of 5% of the gross take by the event holder/promoter. In the case of the Stone Roses gigs that would have been at least £250,000. On that basis the council can exceed its income targets from two events. A panel of local residents (who live within 400m of the park boundaries - including those in Hackney and Islington) should be formed to review - with officers - all large event applications. They should also be involved in the process of planning , holding and reviewing the event. This would be an example of genuine partnership with the community on an issue which affects all local people to some extent. I would be happy to share my further thoughts and to provide a resident input to the development of the policy and to reviewing applications for events in the future. I have provided my email a!ddress elsewhere in this questionnaire.

The council must properly consult on the existing event policy as well as setting a revenue target for Finsbury Park

The council needs to properly consult on the existing policy as well as the revenue target of £165,000 set for Finsbury Park

The councils charges to major promoters is well below the rate commercial venues charge. Profits should only be counted after ALL costs related to having

the event - including all the extra leafleting and advertising the council say they are going to do to placate residents - is accounted for. The profits need to go to improving Finsbury Park - maybe with more staff. NOT to all parks in the borough. The profits will be minimal at the rates you propose.

The current number of events held at the park are sufficient. Any more and for prolonged periods would be unfair to local residents who already have to put up with noise , additional pedestrian traffic and road congestion. If the council is having trouble balancing its books it must, like most people in this country in the current economic climate, learn to better manage its finances. But not at the expense of local residents.

The current number of events is just about bearable. Any more will be unacceptable. The noise nuisance, crowds, rubbish etc are bad. On a summer evening and at weekends we cannot enjoy our garden for the noise when concerts are held in the park. To increase this loss of amenity is unacceptable. The recent Stone Roses concert was truly appalling, with attendees drinking outside every corner shop in the area and openly urinating in any convenient corner. The proposal to increase the number of events in Finsbury Park to raise funds for the improvement of other parks is outrageous. All of the pain will be felt by residents close to Finsbury Park, whilst all of the gain will be to those enjoying the peace, quiet and improved facilities in the other parks in the borough. If other parks need improvement, let them host loud and disruptive events to fund the improvements. The fairest thing to do is to spread the enjoyment (pain) across the borough.

The current proposals to increase the number of concerts in Finsbury Park represent a threat to the park's status as a public space for the use of the community. With the possibility of 6 concerts of 3 days each a year, assuming that each of these concerts will cut off a large section of the park for approximately 10 days each (as happened with the Stone Roses last summer), the park will be out of use for 2 months every summer. Haringey council's map implies that the area left over is 'larger than Clissold Park'. This is completely disingenuous. The area left over in fact includes a lake, a running track, a cafe, a play area, a large section of road, and the remaining area of grass is very badly drained and not suitable for sitting out in the summer. The area where people go to sit during the summer is entirely being taken over by the space for the concerts. I sincerely hope that the council will reconsider this proposal. This is not a middle-class nimby issue. Many p!eople who use the park do not have their own gardens and are not well-off. I appreciate that finances are tight due to central government cuts, but the council's priority should be to protect the needs of local people, which these proposals do not do.

The environment in the park has improved greatly in recent years due to tree planting, improved litter collection (though still a long way to go), park patrols etc. Let's keep it that way and go further. Need more wildlife areas to bring back the small birds whose ground cover has been removed. What about a dedicated nature area with bird-watching hide, information hut, children's activities.

The events last year were inadequately monitored, with noise levels so loud that they disturbed residents even indoors, and events lasting beyond agreed shut down times. The Stone Roses concert was a disgrace.

The events policy appears to be out of sync with the proposed submission by Live Nation to allow themselves to dictate the number of events they they would choose to hold.It appears that if this is granted then the proposed event policy becomes redundant or irrelevant. The Licensing application is a real

problem to the ability to control events, their number, size, location and type.

The Funfairs and Circus events need to have a higher police presence. For some reason these "Family" events attract an increase in drug users and petty criminals

The large scale events trap us in our homes and subject us to an unacceptable amount of noise pollution and should be stopped altogether or severely limited in size and scope - no sound amplification and smaller numbers

The main drive way developed the beginnings of potholes after the events earlier this year - presumably by HGVs - the broken up surface had the top level of gravel coming loose. These haven't been looked at, and are now becoming full blown potholes.

The music performances and their long loud soundchecks already make a lot of noise at times of year when people like to enjoy their gardens, or their park. I live one mile away, but last year's concerts spoiled several evenings in teh garden, where quiet enjoyment should not be made impossible. If my neighbour plays loud music, I can complain. Finsbury Park should not be allowed to become a massive noisy neighbour.

The new proposals open the door to using the park for an unacceptable level of time and space. The idea that each event can take a week to set up, run for 3 days and then take a few days to take down is very worrying. How will air quality be effected? All large scale outdoor events use diesel generators. These run all day, and produce carcinogenic fumes. The park is a treasured resource for local children to get away from the heavy traffic and pollution that dominates the Finsbury Park area. That will be taken away for up to 3 months a year over the summer, when outdoor events typically happen. We use the park daily with our children, and have lived in our street for 35 years. We have no problem with large events, and have enjoyed many of them ourselves. However, the new proposals are an abuse of the park and its surroundings. The damage to the park itself will be considerable and the relationship between and the council will be damaged. I urge you to reconsider.

The park is a wonderful space as it is. Unfortunately, it is regularly marred by the presence of the funfair/circus. Both of which just put out vast amounts of noise, take up valuable space during prime time and don't actually entertain that many people (go there and see how many people attend!). Further, the circus has in the past increased volumes to unacceptable levels (music can be clearly heard through triple glazed windows). Upon calling your noise prevention squad they denied any ability to investigate and were generally useless.

The park is already regularly interrupted by the fair. The tarmac road around the park should be available for cycle circuits all year round -- the funfair cuts off the corner on all public holidays- it could easily sit on one side of the road.

The park is an open space best suited to quiet enjoyment and sport. Please do not hold massive events there.

The park is loved and very well used. But there aren't enough staff. It's often very dirty. It needs much more management and investment.

The park should be first and foremost for residents. More large-scale events, including set-up and take-down, risk making large parts of the park unusable by residents for a large chunk of the summer. Any money from the events must be ploughed back into the park - it would be wrong for the inconvenience to be borne by FP residents, but for the benefits to go elsewhere.

The Park should not rely on events to support the ongoing day to day maintenance of the Park. Proceeds from events should be seen as a bonus to he park and the sums invested towards a 'Grand Project'. That way local residents would see a tangible ' asset' that was the result of say 5 years of events proceeds.

The period for these events is April to October. You are proposing 6 events of 2-3 days each, so 12-18 days of events. Plus set-up and take-down time for each event which is likely to be a minimum of 5 days per event = 30 days. That is the best part of 2 whole months when the park will be a no-go area for the families who will want to use it over the summer period. Not to mention the noise pollution which reaches way beyond Finsbury Park and any 'permitted/designated' area within the park. On Mount View Road we cannot sit in our gardens during a concert because the sound floats up the hill and is very loud and clear. Pity the poor folk in streets adjacent to the park. Single-day events are bad enough, let alone 2- or 3-day events.

The present number of events and people atracted to Finsbury Park to attend these are grossly excessive and constitute very serious disruption,noise and impairment to local residents. This dammage must be carefully addressed before any consideration is given to increased numbers or frequency of events.

The proposal of large events increasing from 1 day to possibly 3 days is too vague. Can a limit be put on the number of 3 day and 2 day events. Local Brownswood (Hackney ward) residents (adjacent to Finsbury Park)are alarmed about the potential number of large day events increasing from 5 to 18.

The proposals are ill-judged, unbalanced and do not properly address the real issue of local authority under-funding to Finsbury Park. These proposals will have a seriously detrimental effect on tens of thousands of families in the surrounding areas and should be rejected by the elected representatives of these areas as a result.

The questions are not open and do not give full options to disagree. The deatils of the events is not given and need to be defined. in particular there is nothing said about increasing numbers attending or the length of the event. for the use of revenue there is no option given for using all the money on finsbury park.

The stakeholder group should involve the organiser of those major events and be in time to allow discussion of the event plan. The organisers should also have to leaflet the defined area about their application so that people can comment in advance of the stakeholder group. I also request that the rules apply to proposed events over 4.500 attendees.

The undertaking to advertise events is welcomed and has been a shocking omission the last 20 years. There are opportunities to significantly reduce disruption and opposition by actively managing the set up and set down process so that other park users can continue to enjoy the park for as long as possible - this has not been the case over the last 20 years. Events are a local employment opportunity for traffic management during set up/down and for marshalling during the event. These (unskilled) jobs go to outside event management companies and local opportunities for employment could be made a condition. There is a high degree concern in the implication that the park will be largely booked April to September? Change should be made on a trial/review basis. Consideration should also be given to the use of events area in summer time by daytime rough sleepers and more resources are required to look into this problem in case it is displaced to other areas that may affe!ct their/others safety.

The whole thing stinks. I pay a considerable amount of council tax, at least some of which should go towards the upkeep of our park without the need of letting it out for 6 three week chunks each year. Your lack of consultation about the Stone Roses concert was breathtaking, and leads me to believe that any attempt to listen to the so-called stakeholders will be window-dressing, and not taken seriously. The meeting I went to during that so called consultation was astonishing in its lack of regard for people living near and using Finsbury Park.

The wording of the questions, made it very hard to oppose all large scale commercial concerts, and implied that everyone was happy with the current levels. So just for clarity: I totally oppose using the park for any large scale commercial concerts. They blight the lives of those living nearby and make the park somewhere to avoid completely. The noise of a concert travels into the entire park, so drawing pretty lines around the physical concert area, completely ignores the fact that noise travels outside this zone. To the extent that many people avoid even using the park!

There are already too many noisy and disruptive events that prevent local people from enjoying this much needed public place. You should not hold any large scale concerts at all

There is a very serious issue of noise, and I am surprised to see that it is not even mentioned in this survey. We live relatively near the park. In the summer months, we would normally expect to be able to spend time in our garden at weekends. However, if there is a concert on in the park, we actually have to leave London. This is not a matter of noise which may or may not exceed a statutory level - it is simply an issue of what a normal person can cope with when they are trying to relax at home after a long week at work. Increasing the number/duration of concerts would be appalling. I sincerely hope that it does not happen.

These large events are very disruptive for local people. B

They are shocking. Wilfully neglecting the rights of local residents.

This consultation process is deeply flawed - you should have provided an option for those of us who do not want any large scale noisy and crowded events in the park - why should we have to put up with this when rich people close to Hyde park have stopped similar events there. If you need the money make it

from other activities or charge a proper amount for just one event at Alexander Palace

Totally lacking in creative leadership. All about making easy money.

Unbeleiveable - you are intending to infomr peopel only 2 weeks before. This is ill conceived policy in the extreme

Using the Park as an national event venue totally diminishes its role as a local facility, in many peoples' minds , turning it into a car-park

WE LIVE IN A LARGE FAMILY HOUSE ON WOODSTOCK ROAD - IT IS THE FIRST HOUSE ON WOODSTOCK ROAD AT THE STROUD GREEN ROAD END. THE EVENTS IN FINSBURY PARK AFFECT US ENORMOUSLY IN THE FOLLOWING WAY: • ROAD CLOSURES: WE ARE A LARGE FAMILY WITH MANY COMINGS AND GOINGS, AND LARGE FAMILY OCCASIONS , USUALLY ON A SATURDAY OR SUNDAY, WHEN EVERYONE COMES TO LUNCH OR TEA OR SUCH LIKE. IT IS ABYSMAL THAT ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS WE HAVE BEEN FORBIDDEN FROM RETURNING TO OUR FAMILY HOME- 1 WOODSTOCK ROAD - BECAUSE OF THE ROAD CLOSURES. THE PROHIBITIONS HAVE BEEN CONTROLLED BY THE POLICE WHO HAVE DEMONSTRATED AN UNACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF RESTRICTION, FORBIDDING US TO ENTER OUR ROAD AND ORDERING US TO PARK ELSEWHERE , EVEN THOUGH WE ARE ONLY RETURNING TO OUR HOME. OUR CHILDREN HAVE ALSO EXPERIENCED THIS UNACCEPTABLE RESTRICTION WITH AN UNREASONABLY AGGRESSIVE ATTITUDE FROM THE POLICE MARSHALLING TRAFFIC IN THE AREA. IT IS ABSOLUTELY SHOCKING AND YET ANOTHER HORRIFIC SYMPTOM OF AN OVER ZE!ALOUS AUTHORITARIANISM BEING IMPLEMENTED BY THE HIGHLY DYSFUNCTIONAL LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY. I INSIST THAT RESIDENTS WHO WISH TO COME AND GO BY CAR FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE RESTRICTED AREAS, DURING EVENTS TIMES, HAVE DISPENSATION FROM THESE ABSURD PARKING RESTRICTIONS, AND THE POLICE AND TRAFFIC MARSHALS GIVE FULL PERMISSION FOR RESIDENTS TO COME AND GO AS THEY WISH. • LITTER: CAN TEMPORARY LITTER BINS BE PROVIDED DURING EVENT TIMES…IT IS HORRIBLE WADING THROUGH LITTER, INCLUDING VOMIT, FAECES AND URINE DEPOSITED ON OUR DOORSTEP DURING EVENT TIMES. WE PAY AN EXORBITANT COMMUNITY CHARGE - WHAT FOR????? • LOCATION SITES OF EVENTS: THIS HAS IMPROVED BUT COULD STILL BE BETTER ESPECIALLY WITH THE GHASTLY, PAEDOPHILE POLLUTING ATMOSPHERE OF THE FUNFAIR, WHICH I HATE. THE HYSTERICAL SCREAMING, BOOMING LOUDSPEAKER SHOUTING, MUSIC ETC IS AN INTRUSION IN EVERY WAY, CAN THE FAIR BE LOCATED UP TOWARD THE MANOR HOUSE END OF THE PARK?

While I appreciate that the Council needs revenue, it is unacceptavble that the Finsbury Park should be used in a way causes severe dispruption and is harmful to the PArk itself. These large scale events were a disaster for local residents

Whilst I am in favour of Finsbury Park being an active facility which is used by the local community, large events and the continuous funfairs and circus are not directed at the local community. They cause major disruption, noise and inconvenience for local residents on the Seven Sisters Road side. If the park is to be used for more events, those events should be strictly controlled in terms of numbers, duration (no more than one day per weekend), noise levels and curfew(finishing by 10pm) and they should be spread around the park to minimise the damage to the park and the inconvenience for specific groups of residents.

Will be watching developments. Further disruption by noise and anti social behaviour resulting from the Park being used as an outdoor arena whether for concerts or other activities will be treated as a possible criminal offence and liability sought for negative impacts on persons and property. Notice periods of 1 month are not nearly enough and compensation for distress caused by these events will be sought.

without care the park will be taken over for far too much of the summer with walls and heavy machinery, and the rest will see the bark in 'recovery' mode which can be very sad to see. where we live was a feeder street for people exiting the park after the concert which is incredibly disruptive for hours after the event. this is particular a problem as we have small children whose sleep is disrupted. i would not like the frequency of these disruptions to be increased.

Would love to see the outdoor cinema, increased security by the station when gigs are on as I felt unsafe with all the laity people and ticket touts

You dont give an option of fewer events of longer - 2/3 day - duration. I would support this up to six total days. I think your consultation is defective in not offering this option. Id like to underline the disruption caused by music events especially. If the wind is blowing your way the noise can be extremely intrusive and the behaviour of those leaving the venue violent and intimidating. For example my wife and I were returning home along Tollington Pk road earlier this year to encounter the concertgoers from a music festival leaving the park en masse. The majority appeared drunk and had no regard or probably even awareness of oncoming pedestrians. My wife was banged into by one person and we litterally had to duck out of the way to avoid several others. Owing to their drunken state it was far worse than say a football crowd. While Im willing to accept the current number of days per year an increase would be an intolerable imposition and likely affect house !prices. It is not fair on local residents.

You have not allowed us to comment on increase the amount of days each event can run. This is very important as it increase the actual number of total event days from a current. 5 to a potential 18! As I live right by the park and parking is severly disrupted on Sundays and evenings of events plus getting loads of rubbish thrown in our gardenI would not support 18 days of events. Increase one-off days from 5 to 6 would be ok. Or allowing ONE or TWO of the events to run for two days. Three days is too many.

You have not asked questions about all aspects of the new policy. I feel very strongly that this consultation is flawed, and that the questions included in the consultation do not give us a good opportunity to comment on many of the key points which are mentioned in the proposals. For example, you have not asked whether we support the idea of events going on for 2 or 3 days. If the number of events and the number of days these events can run are both extended, plus the time taken for setting up and taking down, then a large part of the park will be inaccessible to most of us for most of the summer months. This is quite unacceptable. Most of us want to use the park for quiet recreation and exercise, and for our children to play in, and a greatly extended series of events will crowd us out of our own park. Secondly, I was very shocked by reports of the completely inadequate toilet facilities at the recent Stone Roses concert. There was also a huge amount of litter left bythe Schalke supporters who were permitted to park their coaches in the park last year. It is absolutely essential that no licenses are granted unless the event organisers can guarantee both adequate toilet facilities and litter collection, and there must be very severe penalties written into the contracts for failure to meet these conditions.

You need one of these boxes under each question as you only give 2 options when there are probably many more! I do not understnd why income from such events cannot be used more widely than in the park. These events have an impact on the street environment too. The consultation document on improvements to Finsbury Park town centre highlight it as an area of deprivation, additional income from these events could be used to tackle some of these problems. I think most of the area and residents affected by large events are within Hackney and Islington so I strongly object to income from these events being spent in other Haringey parks whilst Finsbury Park and the surrounding areas get more and more affected by lack of attention to repairing damage caused by such events.

Your figures are wildly misleading. What this borough needs is better financial management. Not depriving it's residents of a much loved central area of the borough. Parks are for well being and recreation, not for people who can afford to pay upwards of £60 a day. You are depriving local residents of piece and quiet for up to 18 full days a year. You are depriving us of over half of our park for up to 3 months of the year!!! Meanwhile, proposed wasteage of £800k on call centre customer service, homes for Haringey bonuses etc. I am absolutely disgusted with the obvious way you're trying to bully this proposal through, regardless of how it affects your residents.

Your survey did not specificially ask whether we support or do not support increasing the duration of big events from 1 day to 2 (or possibly 3) days. This aspect is important because potentially it means we could go from having 5 days of big events to easily 12 days of big events per year. You need to work more in partnership with Islington and Hackney Council because people affected by these proposals live in those boroughs right next to the park. For example, the other side of seven sisters road next to the park is Hackney. How are you consulting residents in these boroughs? As a Hackney resident, it is only by chance and good connections I have just found out about this survey. Not impressed. I know councils need to maximise their income. But please think back to what the park was originally created for. Londoners began to demand the creation of open spaces as an antidote to the ever-increasing urbanisation of London. That was back in the 19th Century. How much !more do we need our peaceful green spaces now? Not loud events. For events that are permitted, I hope there will be strong enforcement of allowed times (ie finishing times for concerts).

SGRA

STROUD GREEN

as from: [redacted]

email: [redacted]

parks@haringey.gov.uk

10th November 2013

Dear Sirs,

Re: EVENTS POLICY REVIEW FOR FINSBURY PARK

After talking to and attending meetings with SGRA members concerned at the proposals for the 2014 Events Policy for Finsbury Park, the overriding emotion is one of anger and disbelief that Haringey is even considering some of the proposals, especially in the light of the gross mis-management of the large-scale Stone Roses event this year. On behalf of the Stroud Green Residents' Association I would like therefore to voice our opinions on the current consultation.

First of all it is felt that the consultation itself is flawed. The leaflet outlining the proposals was not as widely distributed as it could have been to those residents likely to be most affected by the proposals, especially considering Haringey's commitment to local engagement with a view to building local ideas into the proposed "*policy as well as the terms and conditions of hire, event management processes and communication procedures*" (email from Simon Farrow of Sept 20). In terms of the on-line consultation questionnaire residents felt that there should have been 3 options available not 2 as this limited the choice and could be used to skew the result. It was also pointed out that there was no reference to present or potential income to inform choice. Residents asked to be informed of the results of the questionnaire.

There is huge concern at the proposal to increase the number of event days from 5 to 6, especially as in the majority of cases the minimum booking being sought is 2 days and, on occasion, 3. This could lead to a potential 12 or 18 event days and with a set up/knock down time of a week on either side, could mean a large area of the Park would be out of commission for 12 or more weeks. Bearing in mind the main events' season runs from April to September and the council practice of not booking large commercial events during the school Summer holidays (traditionally the last week in July through to the end of August/beginning of September), there is a potential for Finsbury Park to be largely unavailable to regular users from mid-May and the greater part of September. These are the very months when families start to enjoy being outdoors in the warmer weather, walkers, joggers, runners and cyclists increase in number and the Park is at its busiest. It would also span the Summer half term holiday (set up for the 2103 Stone Roses concert fell at this time), disenfranchising many people who rely on the Park for their leisure pursuits. On the council's own website Finsbury Park is listed as a *People's Park* offering *a peaceful green retreat from its urban built-up surroundings.* We don't think the council was taking

into consideration a 49,999 rock concert audience when writing this blurb. There is also the possibility that heavy rainfall during one or more of these events will turn the Park into a quagmire that will ruin it for many months thereafter.

Residents are worried at the burden put on the Park infrastructure when invaded by huge audience numbers, as well as damage to the grassed areas and the road surfaces when heavy vehicles and lifting equipment are used to transport and erect staging, fencing and ancillary equipment. The site for large-scale events is traditionally on an area heavily used by locals and the wider community and includes the sunken garden area with event fencing being built almost up to the children's play area.

SGRA would be appalled if the proposal that the footprint of each event varied from event to event was agreed. Haringey MUST acknowledge that Finsbury Park is a amazing local facility providing value as a *People's Park*. It has been awarded the prestigious Green Flag Award every year since 2007 and the idea that an even larger proportion would be out-of-bounds to local users during an event is incomprehensible.

There is also some confusion as to the amount of funds generated by events in Finsbury Park. From figures obtained, it seems as if the present income actually exceeds the current expenditure on Park maintenance. Residents pointed out that the fee received by Haringey from SJM for the Stone Roses event seemed risible when compared with the huge profit made by the events management company. It was felt that Haringey should look more closely at its charging policy with a view to becoming a more viably commercial enterprise. In fact, in a rather jocular vein, it was suggested that should Haringey itself organise one large-scale event per year generating an income in excess of £2 m, then the profit from that would far and away exceed anything needed for parks maintenance and we could all retire happier and wealthier after one annual event! Slightly tongue in cheek but nevertheless it does beg the question? Should Haringey charge a more commercial rent for Finsbury Park, it would not be necessary to even consider raising the number of events at present allowed.

We were rather taken aback to be told that excess revenue would not be ring-fenced for use in Finsbury Park. Whilst of course interested in ensuring that all Haringey parks are maintained to a high standard, we felt that Finsbury Park should be first in line to reap the rewards of revenue gained from outside use of this park, especially when Park users have suffered in its gain. Residents also pointed out that a not inconsiderable amount of individual council tax is levied for the upkeep of local parks.

A further consideration was access to Finsbury Park for cyclists during events. Many cyclists use the route between Seven Sisters Road and Hornsey Gate as a safe and direct route. This is often blocked or obstructed during events. Michael Poteliakhoff, Haringey Cycling Campaign Coordinator, has commented that there is a key daylight hours cycle route from Endymion Road to the South Gate and a Greenway route to Green Lanes through the Park and maintaining access is paramount. Haringey has been keen to promote walking and cycling across the borough and would be failing in its duty to provide access to walking/cycle routes, should these become obstructed.

In conclusion SGRA urges Haringey Council to seriously consider Finsbury Park's regular users, those on limited income and without an outdoor space, and the environmental impact on the Park in reaching a decision on these latest proposals. We would urge that the working agreement not to have concerts in the Summer holidays becomes a hard ban in the policy to cover any school holidays. Using the Stone Roses concert as a model, SGRA would advise any large-scale event to be equipped with better toilet facilities, better security at local pubs and places where alcohol is available throughout the day, better policing and better communication with residents (SGRA is shocked that conditions laid down in the licence for this event to inform residents in a designated area around the Park were not adhered to). We sincerely hope that both Islington and Hackney Councils have been approached for their residents' views as they will also be negatively affected by any increase in the number of annual large-scale events.

Yours faithfully,

Kit Greveson

Chair

We appreciate the difficulties faced by the current financial climate and the difficulty this must present in maintaining Finsbury Park, which is a valuable asset to residents of our areas.

However, the proposal to intensify the number of major events in the park to address this gap is of grave concern to us and we oppose it.

As we understand, there are currently two licences held by promoters to use the park for larger events, primarily concerts, with a third application in for consideration. The number of events that can be held under these licences is limited only by the events policy. The numbers granted by the licences are currently set at 39,999 and 49,999 however the policy is to be amended to take off this limit and set it to the available space meaning far larger audiences could be accommodated.

The area around Finsbury Park is extremely busy through out the year, given it is a major transport hub, and this is intensified when Arsenal play at home or hold events or there are events in the park. At present, the summer period does give some respite to residents but this is jeopardised by concerts. Given that your policy restricts hire of the park over the school holidays and concerts tend to want to operate early summer, there could be a scenario where late May through to early July is dominated by concerts at both venues with no break. Whilst events may last up to three days, the set up, sound checks and break down will extend this by a significant number of days on either side prolonging nuisance. This is the time when residents hope to enjoy their outdoor space, especially the park – as well as being a critical time for students who are studying for examinations.

The Stone Roses concerts this year generated many complaints from Islington residents. This was the first time that the park has been used for a 49,999 capacity event and it was clear that the arrangements in place could not contend with that number. There was significant displacement of the audience into Islington to access the transport system showing that a far more extensive operation to manage crowds, similar to that used for Emirates, would need to be put in place should that capacity or greater be repeated. This also comes at a time when the MPS have indicated their intention to remove policing from queues at transport locations meaning it will need to be addressed by the promoter.

The number of non-football events at Emirates are strictly controlled by the planning consent. You may be aware that we have dealt with a planning application to hold an additional three concerts at Emirates this year. We have refused this on the basis of the cumulative effect on amenity for residents. Noise nuisance, disruption to their ability to use the transport system and general anti-social behaviour associated with events are the primary reasons we have cited and would urge that you also take this into account and withdraw your intention to increase both the number of events and capacity. We would like to see consistency with the agreed number of concert days at Emirates which is three but accept that, given your existing policy, 5 days would appear reasonable.

We also note that Haringey has not used its ability to hold a licence for the park and has instead allowed individual promoters to hold them in totality. This differs to our own policy where the Council holds the licences for music and dance for each of its green spaces. This allows greater control in event than relaying on the hire conditions – for instance,

stopping events if noise limits are exceeded - and means that a separate licence has to be applied for if an event-holder wishes to sell alcohol. Flexibility comes from this and allows risk-based decisions to be taken over capacities, stewarding, start and finish time etc. in line with the bands rather than taking a generic approach. We would ask that you consider this to get control and consistency as well as avoiding the need to challenge three licenses in the event that there are unresolvable issues.

Notwithstanding our objection to the potential increase in number of event days that the draft policy would permit, we would want to see the following conditions included within the event policy:

- Formal consultation to take place with Islington and Hackney councils and the MPS before any hire proposal is agreed
- A safety Advisory group to be held for each event and the event management plan and any associated traffic management orders agreed with Islington
- No large events to be held on days when Emirates Stadium is in use or there are major events in Clissold Park
- Stewarding arrangements in place and agreed to cover the surrounding area including Islington transport hubs
- The travel management plan be extended to include Arsenal station
- No more that 1 event on Sunday or Bank holidays
- Finish times to be linked to transport availability – i.e. if the last train is at 11.30 and tube queues take an hour and a half to clear then the finish time should be 10pm
- Timings of sound checks to be agreed with Islington
- Sound monitoring to be carried out on the Islington boundary with the location agreed with Islington
- A senior Haringey officer available on site throughout the duration of any large event
- Details of events to be circulated to an agreed area of Islington with a live complaints line operational during events and sound checks
- Haringey introduces a DPPO in the surrounding area to run concurrently with those in place in Hackney and Islington
- Event income to be shared with adjoining Boroughs to offset the costs of public realm clean-up in Islington and Hackney

Please find London Borough of Hackney's comments on the above listed consultation.

- Hackney, Islington and Haringey jointly signed the Finsbury Park Accord in summer 2012 aimed at working together to guide the improvement and regeneration of Finsbury Park Town Centre;
- Several key projects are currently coming forward which impact on, and may be impacted by, the current consultation, the main one being the Finsbury Park Supplementary Planning Document (SPD);
- The SPD was consulted on between July to August 2013 and once adopted will set planning policies for key development sites and incremental improvements to the town centre.
- Some key initiatives coming forward as part of the SPD relevant to this consultation include -

    - Aspiration to create a new link from Station Place to Finsbury Park as part of the redevelopment of the Rowan's site - how is this potential new link into the park to be managed during events?
    - The Rowan's site is likely to be redevelopment for a mixed use development in the future including residential as are the City North and John Jones sites. Development of these sites is likely to provide 400-600 new homes - it's likely any increase in park events may impact on the amenity of nearby residential development particularly if event duration is increased as proposed;
    - Respondents to the SPD consultation have noted the number of fast food outlets and betting shops as being a negative for the Town Centre's image and linking their proliferation to the number of events and football matches held within and adjacent to the town centre. How will the current policy look at addressing these potential impacts which may be counter intuitive to the aspirations of the SPD?
    - The SPD is looking to enhance walking and cycling routes, strengthening links between Finsbury Park, the Parkland Walk, Gillespie Park, Highbury Corner, Highbury Fields, Caledonian Park and the Emirates (Arsenal) Stadium, encouraging walking and cycling for local residents and visitors. This should include joint working with TfL to improve pedestrian and cycling links across Seven Sisters Road.

- Hackney Council are also concerned by the scale of the proposed increase in the number of events, from 5 one day events currently to a possible 6 events lasting up to 3 days. The Stone Roses concert that took place earlier this year resulted in significant negative impact on surrounding residents and businesses. Further details on how such impacts will be prevented, including how promoters will be expected to manage the impact during events on areas outside the park, need to be clarified due to the possible increase in frequency of large commercial events.
- Islington are also looking to implement a shopfront improvement programme for Blackstock Rd to improve the look and retail performance of this area. Further discussion should be had with Islington, Hackney and the Finsbury Park Town Centre manager to ensure the current events policies do not conflict with these proposals; and
- Hackney Council would like to understand what measures are being taken to mitigate the impact of these proposals including traffic congestion, cycling, pedestrian movement and access to park facilities on event days

Mark Powney
Team Leader - Planning Policy & Delivery

I have been asked to contact you regarding the proposed policy changes regarding the use on Finsbury Park.

You are probably aware that my colleague Mark Powney has already submitted a response on behalf of Hackney Council on Friday 8 November in which we raised a number of issues, including concerns about the scale of the proposed increase in the number of events, from 5 one day events currently to a possible 6 events lasting up to 3 days.

We are aware that Islington Council have expressed grave concerns over the proposal and were given an extension to submit a formal response to the consultation. We have had sight of Islington's response and wish to echo those concerns.

We noted in our correspondence with Islington that the Stone Roses concert led to many complaints from residents. And, whilst the impact on Hackney residents do not appear to have been as widespread on Hackney residents, there were a number issues raised at meetings held with our Community Safety and ASB Team relating to persons urinating in front gardens and a notable increase in littering.

We therefore wish to support the proposed conditions suggested by Islington, and in particular the following:

Formal consultation to take place with Islington and Hackney councils and the MPS before any hire proposal is agreed

- Haringey introduces a DPPO in the surrounding area to run concurrently with those in place in Hackney and Islington
- Event income is shared with adjoining Boroughs to offset the costs of public realm clean-up in Islington and Hackney

We do hope the above will be taken into consideration.

Kind regards,

David Tuitt
Senior Licensing Officer
Legal, HR and Regulatory Services

Subject: Finsbury Park events consultation

Hello,

I am responding to this consultation on behalf of Haringey Cycling Campaign.

The implication of the proposal is that by ending the current 5 day limit on large concerts in the Park and instead allowing 6 concerts of up to 3 days, the concert area to will be closed to the public for up to 12 weeks over the summer, assuming each event takes 2 weeks to set up and take down. This means there will be no access to a large part of the park for extended periods when it is most needed, in the Summer and at weekends.

There is mention of paths being diverted, but no mention of the diversion being convenient or maintaining cycle access. There is a key daylight hours cycle route from the Endymion Rd gate to the South Gate and a Greenway route to Green Lanes. Further Quietway routes are planned through the Park and the new E-bike hub will be situated nearby. Any change to events arrangements must take this in to account, with usable, convenient, walking and cycling access maintained.

I would be pleased to hear of your detailed plans for maintaining access and suggest you consult with Mr Malcolm Smith, in Transport Planning.

Regards,

Michael Poteliakhoff

HCC Coordinator

JEREMY CORBYN MP
Member of Parliament for Islington North
86 Durham Road London N7 7DU
Tel: 020 7561 7488 Fax: 020 7561 7487

Nick Walkley,
Chief Executive,
Haringey Civic Centre,
High Road,
Wood Green,
London, N22 8LE.

21st November 2013.

Dear Nick Walkley,

I write to add my support to those opposing a potential increase in the number and the size of major events in Finsbury Park.

Whilst I can understand Haringey's wish to generate additional income, such events would of course have a significant impact on the residents of Hackney and Islington as well. The Stone Roses concert could clearly be heard at Hornsey Road and there was considerable congestion on the roads, pavements and in cafes and pubs – and plenty of rubbish for the Councils to clear up afterwards.

As you know, Islington Council have licensed the Emirates Stadium to hold events on a similar scale but, in response to objections from local residents, have limited these to three per year. They are currently defending a judicial review of the planning inspector's ruling in their favour.

Finsbury Park was handed over for safekeeping to Haringey by the GLC. It is greatly valued by the residents of north London, particularly in Islington where green space is at an absolute premium. In my view it is not acceptable that it should be taken out of public use for more than a few days every year.

I very much hope the Council will listen to the many objections voiced by residents of all three Boroughs. I'd suggest that even in these straitened times the Council should not enable any expansion of major events.

Yours sincerely,

Ruth Clarke

pp. Jeremy Corbyn

Finsbury Park Outdoor Events Policy Review

Response by Liberal Democrat Councillors

Introduction

The proposed increase in the number of days when large music concerts can be held in Finsbury Park from 5 to as many as 18 is not acceptable. Liberal Democrat councillors are opposed to this change due to the impact it would have on the park and those that use it, and on local residents living nearby.

Survey results

To find out residents' views we conducted an online survey which we emailed to well over 1,000 residents in areas near the park in Stroud Green and Harringay wards. We received 223 responses.

The first questions was *'The Labour council are proposing to treble the number of concert days at Finsbury Park from 5 concerts to up to 6 concerts lasting 3 days each, which would increase the limit to 18 concert days a year. Do you support or oppose this plan?'*.

166 respondents (75%) said they opposed the plan , 50 respondents (23%) said they supported it and 5 (2%) had no option. This demonstrates that there is strong opposition amongst local residents to the Council's plan.

Those that opposed the increase in concerts were asked what their biggest concern is. The most common concern was *'lack of access to the park'* , which was selected by 116 respondents (65% of those opposed). The second most common reason was *'anti-social behaviour '*, which was selected by 45 respondents (25% of opponents).

168 respondents (77%) also agreed that concerts should not be '*held during school holidays so that local families can enjoy full access to the park'*. 51 respondents (23%) disagreed with this.

We also asked respondents to provide comments. These often focused on how the concerts effect people's daily lives, particularly the effect of the noise on quality of life. Many comments showed what a strong affinity local people have with the park, and their concern that it might be damaged. A small selection of the comments is below:

"The main reason I oppose the increase in the number of concert days is the noise that the concerts generate. The noise levels from the current concerts and events deprive us of the enjoyable use of our garden and intrude into the house. We often arrange to be out or away during the concerts to avoid the stress caused by the concert noise. I feel that this is a breach of our right to enjoy a reasonably quiet weekend in our own home. Any increase in the current number of concerts is unacceptable."

"I'm concerned about the damage to the park. The grass and plants will be ruined especially if it's raining before or during the event. The toilet issue needs to be addressed and security is a priority too. In any case, I do not support the increase in events. At all!"

"Losing access to the park for 18 days during the, sunniest, warmest months of the year is outrageous. It was not pleasant experience for residents around the park during the Stone Roses concert this year and I have no wish to repeat it. It was very crowded and many people were drunk and disorderly. Access to the park was not only restricted during the two days of the concert but also for several days before and after as the venue was constructed and taken down. The impact of this many events, especially the proposed size and their being alcohol available will be negative to the people living around the park but Haringey Council obviously don't care"

"The park is supposed to be for the enjoyment of all who live in the vicinity and it is much used. Taking large areas out of use for several days a year, plus the inevitable ensuing mud that will result if an event falls on rainy days, will render large areas of the park unusable for far too many days per year. The recent Stone Roses concert resulted in wide spread drunken urinating in public space"

Key points

After listening to the concerns of residents, we would like to make the following points:

1. Local councillors received many complaints following this year's Stone Roses concerts, particularly about anti-social behaviour, littering and public urination in streets like Perth, Ennis, and Woodstock Roads, but also about damage to the park. These resulted from failing to provide enough security or policing in nearby streets and a lack of toilet facilities. Until Haringey Council and Haringey Police can demonstrate that manage large concerts without causing such problems for residents and allowing damage to the park then they should not be proposing to increase the concerts day limit.

2. Each weekend concert results in the southern half of the park being out of use to the public for almost a fortnight, because of the time to set up and take down the concert area. If there were 6 weekends that would mean 12 weeks of the concerts area being out of action, which is a large portion of the summer. Given how busy the park is over the summer that is completely unacceptable. Some of the areas that are left for use suffer from poor drainage and are boggy and unusable even when the weather is good.

3. For many local people and families in the area are on low incomes and have no garden. For them Finsbury Park is a vital amenity over the summer. Providing that public amenity to local families should be the Council's top priority, and the council should consider the social cost of reducing access to the park to people on low incomes. The most crucial time for ensuring full access is during the school holidays when the park is busiest with local families. Concerts should not be allowed during school holidays.

4. Other parks such as Hyde Park and Victoria Park have been very badly damaged by being over-intensively used for concerts and have now cut or reduced the number of concerts they hold. The Council risks doing the same to Finsbury Park. It only takes heavy rain at one of these concert weekends for the park to be turned into a mud bath by 50,000 pairs of feet. Such damage would be impossible to quickly repair and the effected areas would be out-of-action for most of the next year.

5. Finsbury Park already generates income from commercial activity - and already pays its way to a large extent. However the concerts do not seem to generate enough income to compensate for the problems they cause. The income from the Stone Roses concerts was little more than £1 per concert attendee, which given the cost of tickets shows little of revenue raised come to Haringey. Given the limited number of appropriate outdoor concert venues in London, Haringey should focus on getting more money from concert promoters for the existing 5 days of concerts allowed.

In summary, Liberal Democrat councillors are opposed to the plan to increase the limit on concert days in Finsbury Park.

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