

# **CABINET MEMBER SIGNING**

**Monday, 24th January, 2022, 11.00 am**

**Members:** Councillor Mike Hakata

## **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive any apologies for absence.

## **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

A member with a disclosable pecuniary interest or a prejudicial interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered:

- (i) must disclose the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, and
- (ii) may not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must withdraw from the meeting room.

A member who discloses at a meeting a disclosable pecuniary interest which is not registered in the Register of Members' Interests or the subject of a pending notification must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days of the disclosure.

Disclosable pecuniary interests, personal interests and prejudicial interests are defined at Paragraphs 5-7 and Appendix A of the Members' Code of Conduct

## **3. APPLICATIONS BY FESTIVAL REPUBLIC LTD TO HIRE FINSBURY PARK FOR MULTI-EVENT WEEKENDS (PAGES 1 - 42)**

## **4. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Item 5 is likely to be subject to a motion to exclude the press and public from the meeting as it contains exempt information as defined in Section 100a of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by Section 12A of the Local Government Act 1985); paras 3 and 5, namely information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) and information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

**5. EXEMPT - APPLICATIONS BY FESTIVAL REPUBLIC LTD TO HIRE  
FINSBURY PARK FOR MULTI-EVENT WEEKENDS (PAGES 43 - 44)**

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Friday, 14 January 2022

**Report for:** Cabinet Member Signing – 24 January 2022

**Title:** Applications by Festival Republic Ltd to hire Finsbury Park for multi-event weekends

**Report**

**Authorised by:** Stephen McDonnell, Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

**Lead Officer:** Sarah Jones, Events & Partnerships Manager,  
[sarah.jones@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.jones@haringey.gov.uk), 020 8489 5699

**Ward(s) affected:** Harringay

**Report for Key/**

**Non-Key Decision:** Non-Key Decision

**1. Describe the issue under consideration**

- 1.1 This report seeks a determination of an application made by Festival Republic Ltd (the Applicant) to hire Finsbury Park in July 2022 – or later in the year as any then prevailing pandemic restrictions allow, should the Applicant choose to vary its application in order to stage (1) the Wireless Festival over 3 days and (2) a multi-event weekend over 3 days including Lovebox, George Ezra and one other to be determined.
- 1.2 The application is required to be determined pursuant to the Council's Outdoor Events Policy (the Policy), which was approved by Cabinet on 17 December 2013, and implemented on 7 January 2014.

**2. Cabinet Member Introduction**

Not applicable.

**3. Recommendations**

- 3.1 The Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport and the Climate Emergency is recommended:
- (a) To consider, and take account of, the comments received from recognised stakeholders of Finsbury Park in response to the event notification being sent as part of the decision-making process (attached as Appendix 2 to the report).
- (b) To authorise the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods, to approve conditional in-principle agreement to hire Finsbury Park to the Applicant for the events and dates detailed in this report as set out in paragraph 6.4 in the report, subject to:
- (1) the events being permissible under any then prevailing government legislation and guidance in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic, and
- (2) with the agreement of the Council's (interim) Director of Public Health.

#### **4. Reasons for decision**

- 4.1 Under the terms of the Policy, applications of the type detailed in this report are required to be determined with the prior agreement of the Cabinet Member.
- 4.2 If authority is given, then officers will give in-principle agreement to the Applicant for the event application to progress. The events will then be subject to lengthy discussions with relevant authorities - including Licensing and Public Health - before final approval is given.
- 4.3 The rejection of the application would have implications for the Parks & Leisure Service budget and reduce the opportunity for reinvestment into Finsbury Park (the Park). It would also mean that the wider cultural and economic benefits to the borough were lost.

#### **5. Alternative options considered**

- 5.1 In adopting the Policy, the Council established its commitment to using the Park for a limited number of major events each year. Accordingly, the only other alternative option which could be considered would be to reject the application. That option was rejected, on the grounds that the events did not fall within any of the grounds set out in paragraph 5.3 of the Policy for automatic refusal.

#### **6. Background information**

- 6.1 In January 2014, the Council adopted the Policy to recognise the value and benefit that a varied, and well-managed, outdoor events programme can offer the residents of Haringey.
- 6.2 The Policy assists the decision-making process behind building a sustainable and varied programme of events. It also seeks to protect the community and the parks and open space infrastructure and minimise or mitigate any negative impacts which events may cause.
- 6.3 Some of these restrictions as set out at paragraph 5.2.2 of the Policy specifically relate to the Park to ensure a balance of income generation and that of continued public use of the Park through the busiest summer months is achieved. These restrictions include, but are not limited to, the following:
- *“Major scale events [more than 10,000 attendance] will be ordinarily limited to 5 per year, save where there is demonstrable community support for additional events*
  - *Duration of major scale events will be of 1 – 3 days per event*
  - *No major scale events will take place during the school summer holidays”*
- 6.4 In October 2021, the Council received an application from Festival Republic Ltd (the Applicant) to hire the Park to stage the Wireless Festival on 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> July 2022 and a three-day weekend of multi-events to take place on the 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

- 6.5 The Policy details the approval process for determining applications. Paragraph 5.2.3. of the Policy requires prior authority for the event to be given by the Cabinet Member as a non-key decision before officers give in-principle agreement whenever the following criteria apply:
- *“Expected attendance is over 10,000”*
  - *“Event lasts more than 2 days with 5,000 or more in attendance”*
  - *“Organiser occupies a site for more than 14 days including setup and take down periods”.*
- 6.6 All of the criteria detailed above apply to this application, hence this referral to the Cabinet Member.
- 6.7 Public events have been taking place in Finsbury Park since it first opened in 1869. In recent years, Finsbury Park has been the prime location for many international music acts, playing to large audiences within the open arena of the Park. This includes the first open-air symphony concert of the London Philharmonic Orchestra in 1948.
- 6.8 The Applicant has a long and successful history of organising events in the Park since the first Fleadh in 1990. Since then, major international artists including Drake (2018 & 2015), Liam Gallagher (2018) and Oasis (2002) have played to sell-out audiences.
- 6.9 Save for the impact of Covid19 in 2020 and 2021, the Wireless Festival weekend has taken place in the Park every year since 2014. In that time, nearly 900,000 people have enjoyed the event. Wireless weekend has taken place on the first weekend of July but, in 2022 is being moved to a week later so as not to put increased pressure on the transport services, with Guns ‘n’ Roses playing at Tottenham Hotspur’s Stadium further up the Victoria Line.
- 6.10 It is standard commercial practice that, once a park hire application has been submitted by the Applicant and initially accepted by the Council, tickets go on sale subject to Cabinet Member approval or contract being in place. The Applicant does this at its own risk.
- 6.11 If agreed, 2022 will be the fifth year that an additional, second multi-event weekend will take place. In the past, this has included the Community Festival, and headline acts such as Queens of the Stone Age and Liam Gallagher.
- 6.12 The current proposals to hire the Park to the Applicant to host two consecutive weekends of music festivals, seeks to reduce the number of major events in the Park throughout the year, and contain them to one concentrated, concerted period. This means that if the two proposed consecutive weekends of music events are to proceed, build and break days will be reduced by more than three weeks, compared with the 2019 major event season.
- 6.13 This approach will reduce the income level received but allow the Park to generate sufficient income for its basic maintenance, enhanced staffing levels and a reasonable level of investment within the Park.

- 6.14 No other Park hire applications for music events of a similar size and nature will be considered for 2022.
- 6.15 The Applicant allocates a number of tickets for residents living in the immediate vicinity of Finsbury Park. These are available through a postcode lottery. In 2019, 38% of these tickets were applied for by Haringey residents, 47% by Hackney residents and 15% by Islington residents.
- 6.16 Due consideration as to the effects these events could have on the Park, park users and local residents has been given, with detailed plans in place to ensure public access is maintained to the Park and all council managed facilities, whilst ensuring the events provide increased recreational enjoyment within the Park environment.
- 6.17 The Applicant has applied to hire the space known as the Bandstand Field to facilitate the main event area for both weekends of events.
- 6.18 The Bandstand Field is a green expanse of grass, which slopes gently down to the southern boundary of the Park, creating a natural amphitheatre. This main field is encompassed by the internal park carriageway. Part of the carriageway was re-surfaced to motorway standards during the Heritage Lottery Funded restoration of Finsbury Park in 2004 to facilitate heavy, articulated vehicles and provides easy access to the areas to build the event infrastructure, with minimal need for crossing grass.
- 6.19 In addition to the Bandstand Field the Applicant will utilise the grass area to the north and south of the tennis courts, the reservoir field and the strip of grass running along the southern perimeter of the Park, along Seven Sisters Road, between Finsbury Gate and Manor House. This is to accommodate attendee and staffing numbers of up to 49,999 as specified under the Applicant's associate company's - Live Nation Music (UK) Music Ltd - Premises Licence conditions. It is, however, the Applicant which will be responsible for managing and staging both of the events which the application refers to.
- 6.20 In preparation of the 2020 events which were subsequently cancelled due to the pandemic, the Applicant had approached a community-led sports charity, the Finsbury Park Sports Partnership, with a view to hiring the tennis courts in the Park, over the consecutive major event weekends in July, to facilitate the placement of toilets. Although a decision on this had not been determined by the time of events cancellation, it was likely that if agreement had been given, these would only be closed on event days, plus the day after to allow cleaning to take place. It is anticipated that if the applications are agreed in-principle, then discussions to use the tennis courts will once again start.
- 6.21 The total area used for these two weekends of events equates to 30% of the Park (31% if the tennis courts are included). The remaining 70%/69% of the Park, and all other facilities, remain open to the public at all times.
- 6.22 The areas used for quieter, informal recreational activity including all formally laid out horticultural spaces such as the Mackenzie and American Gardens in the northern section of the Park remain open and accessible to the general public while all major events take place.

- 6.23 The only confirmed data the Council holds on usage figures was collected from people counters temporarily installed on the gates into Finsbury Park between 18<sup>th</sup> July and 11<sup>th</sup> September 2016. These show that on average nearly 8,000 daily park visits were made. This is one of the Park's busiest times falling during the school summer holidays. No major events are allowed to take place during this time, as set out in the Policy at 5.2.2.
- 6.24 Many of these visits continue while the major events take place, by ensuring that all public facilities managed by the Council (including the ball courts, play areas, cafes and lake) remain open.
- 6.25 It is a condition of hire that way-finding signage is put in place by the Applicant just before it goes on site, during the build and break, and on event days to inform people that facilities remain accessible to the public and which thoroughfares remain open. Work is ongoing each year to improve on previous way-finding signage, improving the park user experience while event infrastructure is on site.
- 6.26 During the build and break for events, thoroughfares are kept open to park users to transgress the Park north to south, east to west.
- 6.27 For 2022, it has been agreed that the main carriageway from the zebra crossing by the lakeside café, down to Finsbury Gate will only be open to pedestrians and cyclists during peak times of the morning and evening rush hour – 5am-9am and 3pm-7pm. At all other times, pedestrians and cyclists will be directed to use the pathway between Oxford Road and Finsbury Gate which runs parallel between the railway line and tennis courts.
- 6.28 The decision to allow the closure of this part of the carriageway has been made after careful consideration, and with the safety of park users at the forefront. The Applicant has facilitated the continued use of the carriageway by pedestrians and cyclists over previous years of hire. This has included segregating pedestrian, cycle and vehicle usage into specific lanes. But, in recent times, it has become harder to manage this with the increase in numbers, and speed in which cyclists enter this area, often ignoring instruction.
- 6.29 The pathway from Hornsey Wood Tavern Gate through to the central play area remains open during the majority of the build and break but is closed on event days and the immediate day which follows, to allow the site to be cleared and made safe for the public.
- 6.30 During the period that this thoroughfare is closed to the public, alternative routes are made available and publicised to ensure access by regular park users is maintained.
- 6.31 The build and break for the events is carried out in phases, ensuring that as much of the event space as possible is kept open for as long as possible for public access.
- 6.32 A zonal plan of the site is developed by the Applicant, and agreed by officers, showing when each part of the space is due to be closed to public access and



then re-opened. This is dependent on build requirements and with the utmost consideration of health and safety.

- 6.33 For the rest days in-between the consecutive event weekends when the site is not being used for events, the Applicant is committed to re-opening as much of the event space as possible for public use. This is only done after assessing health and safety requirements.
- 6.34 In 2018 and 2019 'Haringey Goes Wild', a music extravaganza celebrating the musical talent of Haringey's and Hackney's young people, was staged on the smaller stage within the event area in the week between the two major event weekends. It is hoped that this will return in 2022. Discussions are ongoing with the Applicant to determine if community use of the space and infrastructure can be increased in 2022.
- 6.35 Security personnel are stationed by Council-managed play and sports facilities closest to the event area to ensure public access is maintained, and that those attending the major events are signposted to access the main entrance into the event.
- 6.36 All efforts to accommodate the continued use by park user groups during the times of the major events, will be made either by finding alternative areas within the park for them to use, or by offering the use of other park sites for their organised activities.
- 6.37 The Live Nation Music (UK) Premises Licence which will regulate the multi-weekend events in July requires that all music ceases at 9.30pm on Sunday in consideration of the start of the working week. On Friday and Saturday, the music stops at 10.30pm.
- 6.38 It is accepted that, due to the high footfall experienced during events, some short-term damage to the grass will take place.
- 6.39 At the end of the 2019 event season, a full programme of grass restoration was undertaken by a specialised contractor. In addition, the Park has benefited from two fallow years with the cancellation of all events in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic, and the grass here has recovered. The proposed 2022 major event season, taking place within the contained 4-week period, will ensure that the grass has a much longer recovery period.

### **Consultation Exercise**

- 6.40 As part of the approval process, the Policy stipulates the need for consultation on the applications to take place. Paragraph 5.1.6. of the Policy states, *"Consultation will involve all stakeholders, including Friends Groups, Area Parks Managers, Ward Councillors, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Sustainability and the members of the Haringey Safety Advisory Group. Other consultees may be added where appropriate to the specific park or open space"*.
- 6.41 In discharging the requirement to consult, officers sent details of the applications to 38 external stakeholder groups by e-mail dated 5 October 2021. Details of the list of consultees appears at Appendix 1 to the report. Stakeholders (including:



local resident associations; Hackney and Islington Council officers; park user groups and leaseholders; councillors from 6 adjoining wards including those in Hackney and Islington; internal Council stakeholders including licensing and emergency planning; and statutory bodies including the Metropolitan Police and London Fire Brigade) were given 10 working days to respond.

6.42 Of the list of consultees, only those highlighted in green at Appendix 1 provided a total of 3 responses broken down as follows:

(a) 1 response was received from a residents' association: Highbury Community Association

(b) 1 response was received from Parkrun

(c) 1 response was received from the Council's Regulatory Services Team

6.43 The comments are set out in full at Appendix 2. However, they can be summarised in the main as being concerns around: the loss of the park area and disturbance within the Park and damage to grass areas; effects on children and young people; disturbance throughout the area and outside the park; size and number of events; Parkrun operation; noise and enforcement.

6.44 Officer responses to the comments are as follows:

### **Highbury Community Association**

Issues raised: loss of the park area; effects on children and young people; disturbance throughout the area and outside the park; size and number of events; benefits to local area; making the park pay for itself.

As regards the points made on the loss of park space, the Policy allows for up to five major events (10,000 or more attendees) to take place in the Park in any one year, for a duration of between 1-3 days at a time. This number will not be exceeded. In fact, as detailed above, the Council is seeking to allow substantially fewer events than have happened in previous years.

Further, see paragraphs 6.17 – 6.22 above which comments on the footprint and location within the Park which will be taken up by the events, and the areas which will remain open and available to the public whilst the events are taking place. For those reasons, officers consider that to be a proportionate balance between competing user demands and is not inconsistent with policy relating to the promotion of physical activity, given the areas of the Park which will be unaffected by the events. Reliance is also placed on the findings contained in the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) which has been carried out and which provides evidence for meeting the Council's commitment to equality and the responsibilities under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

As regards the points made on disturbance, the nature of the consecutive weekends of events proposed will reduce vehicle movement within the Park overall for the year and therefore result in less disturbance. One build and break period for major events means that there will be fewer vehicles moving within the Park. It also means that large infrastructure such as stages, fencing, production areas etc only have to be built once, rather than multiple times for multiple events.

By reducing the number of major events, and therefore reducing the build and break days by approximately 26 compared with 2019, this will be 26 days that the Park will be free of any disruption including vehicle movement.

As regards concern expressed over damage to grass areas, reference should be made to paragraph 6.39 above. In addition, a refundable grounds deposit is taken from all hirers, and if damage is done, this will pay for any rectification works required. If damage costs more than the £15k deposit, then the Applicant is bound by the Park Hire Contract to pay all costs of rectification works, even if they amount to more than the grounds deposit.

As regards to the effect on children and young people (1) the concern over events taking place during exam time is not accepted by officers as both GCSE and A' Level exams would have concluded by this time. This issue is addressed in more detail in the Equalities Impact Assessment (Appendix 3). It is also worth noting that officers have never received a complaint about teenagers not being able to study due to the events taking place; (2) it is not accepted by officers that safety in the Park will be compromised as there is no evidence from previous years that this is the case, and there is in fact a significant security presence in the Park; (3) reference should be made to the officer response to the loss of park space above; (4) it is not accepted by officers that use of the play areas will be compromised because these remain open and accessible throughout the time that the events take place, as well as the build and break periods.

As regards concerns over ASB, and the resources available to deal with the issue should it arise, there is a clear commitment from the Applicant that stewarding will always be a primary focus. The Applicant trialled a new security and stewarding plan in 2018 which saw security numbers increased from having approximately four stewards based on each of the Hackney side roads, to having over 80 members of security staff to cover the operation over the then two, three-day weekends. This worked well and the Applicant committed in 2019 to providing the same level of cover for the Hackney streets, as well as significantly increasing the number of security personnel based in Islington streets. It's reassuring to see that the consultation respondent acknowledges that disturbances were mitigated due to these resources being deployed in 2019. The streets covered and amount of resource is an ongoing discussion between the Applicant and all three local authorities including resident representatives and will also be determined through discussions at the Safety Advisory Group. Security will be provided by a specialist, high-end security management company which is known for providing exceptional standards of specialised security, whilst providing high quality customer service.

As well as having static security personnel based at each junction off Seven Sisters Road, there will be roaming personnel patrolling each of the roads, plus a response team on hand.

The team will fit into the Applicant's existing command and control structure. An Offsite Manager will oversee the whole operation within the side streets and report back directly to the Security Co-coordinator based in Event Control.

As well as providing a residents' phone line for those wanting to report event related issues, residents in the side streets off Seven Sisters Road and those in

Islington off Blackstock Road will be provided with a dedicated phone number to call if issues occur.

As regards the points made on the size and number of events as stated at paragraphs 6.1 – 6.3 above, what is proposed by the Applicant is consistent with the terms of the Council's Policy.

As regards making the Park pay for itself, income derived from events such as those proposed by the Applicant is vital to the continued upkeep and improvements to the Park, whilst respecting the fact that it is a public open space held in trust for the public. Smaller events have been allowed to take place in the Park in the past, but income generated from these events, which have a smaller footprint, is much less than the events with a 45,000 capacity.

By not having events such as this take place in the Park in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic, the Council has suffered financially. This cannot be sustained, and another year of not generating income through these kinds of events, will have significant implications on the day to day running and maintenance of the Park.

The current proposal of seeking to reduce the number of events that the Council is allowed to have, as set out in the Policy, and contain fewer to within one concentrated period, reduces the level of income, but still allows the Park to generate sufficient income for its basic maintenance, enhanced staffing levels and a reasonable level of investment within the park each year.

In addition, an Environmental Impact Fee is charged for all events. The larger the event, the higher the fee. This fee is set aside and distributed between community groups who operate in the Park. In 3 years alone, groups have received over £130k in funding benefiting the local community.

### **Finsbury Park Parkrun**

Issues raised: disruption to activities

Officers welcome the general acceptance of the events and understand there is a pro-active need for a joined-up approach to limit disruption to the weekly Parkrun activities. Officers will continue to work with the Parkrun organisers to determine how their activities can carry on during the build and break periods.

### **Regulatory Services, LB Haringey**

Issues raised: impact of events in local area; noise requirements; enforcement provisions; food and trading standards; safety measures for women and girls.

As to points raised about impact in local area, these have already been addressed in the above comments.

Since the Outdoor Events Policy was introduced, the council has provided a joined-up approach to managing the events in all regards including overseeing the park hire contract through to the Safety Advisory Group which oversees the Premises Licence conditions. This approach will continue when planning of the

2022 events season which will include identifying and allocating resource where needed.

The point made regarding the Applicant having sufficient measures in place to support women and girls both at the event and in surrounding areas will be addressed more fully as the planning progresses.

In 2016, the Council adopted the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy, detailing ambitions for addressing and preventing violence against women and girls in Haringey over a ten-year period. The multi-partnership approach will be embedded within the planning process of these events, and staff working the events will be expected to undertake training to ensure awareness of vulnerability and their responsibilities. This could include the online Police resource Welfare and Vulnerability Engagement (WAVE).

## **7. Contribution to strategic outcomes**

- 7.1 Hosting large and major events within the Park contributes to supporting the local economy, developing the cultural offer in the borough and provides an opportunity for local people to enjoy these types of events with minimal travel.
- 7.2 The recommendations made will contribute to policy and practice primarily in relation to the Place section of the Borough Plan. This was adopted by the Council on 12 February 2019 and sets out priorities for Haringey.
- 7.3 'Place' within the Borough Plan commits to 'A place with strong, resilient and connected communities where people can lead active and healthy lives in an environment that is safe, clean and green.'
- 7.4 This can specifically be seen in Outcomes 9 and 11 as follows:

Outcome 9: A healthier, active and greener place

a) protect and improve parks, open space, and green space promoting community use:

- continue with partners to invest in our parks with over £15 million of improvements planned over the next five years, including new playgrounds and sports facilities;
- promote the use of our parks for a wide range of events and activities, including more community use.

Outcome 11: A culturally engaged place

a) Foster strong and diverse cultural activities:

- support a range of events in the borough, from sport at White Hart Lane and music festivals in our parks, through to activities in our libraries and community-led arts and culture in venues across the borough;
- safeguard and strengthen the borough's cultural heritage by effectively managing, investing in and encouraging access to our heritage assets, museums and libraries;
- protect and promote creative and cultural activity and infrastructure that enables people to gain skills and employment in creative industries and increase investment into the borough;

- support cultural organisations to attract more people to their offer so that there are more opportunities for everyone to connect to the arts and culture in the borough;
- celebrate what is distinctive about Haringey so that our residents are inspired to take part in the great culture on their doorstep and attract visitors from across London and beyond to join us.

## **8. The Open Spaces Act 1906**

- 8.1 The income generated from these events is for the benefit of the Park itself and is fundamental to keeping it open as a viable facility.
- 8.2 All income generated through events specifically held in the Park, will be spent in the Park as required under the Open Spaces Act 1906 (the Act). In the first instance, this will assist with all management and maintenance costs associated with running the Park. Any surplus event income derived will be used to make improvements to the Park's infrastructure as set out in the Outdoor Events Policy at 8.2.5.
- 8.3 The above said, the Cabinet Member is made aware of the fact that the Council does have a statutory duty under the Act as trustee to hold the land comprising the Park on trust for the public. As such, in coming to a view on the Recommendations contained in the report, account has to be taken of the existence and impact of all material circumstances which arise from a decision to grant in-principle approval for the events to take place prior to the Cabinet Member coming to a settled view.
- 8.4 Officers have set out the concerns from objectors and how they can be overcome, at the sub paragraphs under 6.45 above. Officer responses to the concerns raised recognise that a large proportion of the Park will remain open whilst the events take place, and that the event days take up no more than 30% (31% if tennis courts are included) of the Park for less than 2% of the year / 7% of the year, including build and break days. These responses also take into consideration the outcome of the EqlA at Appendix 3. As previously mentioned in 6.31 the build and break for events is done in a phased approach, which enables the Applicant to keep as much of the event site open to park users, for as long as possible.

## **9. Statutory Officers' comments**

### **9.1 Finance (including procurement)**

This information is exempt and is attached as Part B of this report.

### **9.2 Legal**

- 9.2.1 The Head of Legal and Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report and makes the following comments.
- 9.2.2 The law which governs the Council's powers to hire the Park in these circumstances was settled in a High Court challenge for judicial review brought



by the Friends of Finsbury Park (the Friends) against the decision to permit the application to stage Wireless 2016 in the Park.

- 9.2.3 In summary, the judge ruled that the provisions of section 44 of the Public Health Amendment Act 1890; The Ministry of Housing and Local Government Provisional Order Confirmation (Greater London Parks and Open Spaces) Act 1967 and section 145 of the Local Government Act 1972 – all of which govern the ability to permit entertainment in open spaces such as the Park – “*creates different powers for different places subject to different limitations*”. Accordingly, the judge went on to rule that “*s145 of the 1972 Act, of itself and standing alone, provides the Council with the necessary power to permit Wireless 2016 to take place in the Park*”.
- 9.2.4 The significance of that ruling, was that the restriction placed on the amount of the Park which could be enclosed or set apart to facilitate the event, and the duration for such enclosure as prescribed under the 1890 and 1967 Acts – “*one acre or one tenth of the [Park] whichever is greater*” / “*12 days in any one year, nor four [six in London] consecutive days on any one occasion*” – simply did not apply.
- 9.2.5 The Friends then appealed to the Court of Appeal. However, the appeal was dismissed on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017, with all three judges ruling that the High Court judge had correctly identified what the legal power position was.
- 9.2.6. The Friends then sought permission to appeal to the Supreme Court. However, that application was dismissed on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018 on the grounds that it “does not raise an arguable point of law”.

#### The Current Applications

- 9.2.7 During the course of the hearing in the Court of Appeal, the Friends and the Open Spaces Society introduced new representations not made in the High Court, concerning the fact that the Council holds the Park on trust for the enjoyment by the public as an open space pursuant to section 10 of the Open Spaces Act 1906 (the 1906 Act).
- 9.2.8 The Council conceded that the 1906 Act did apply. Accordingly, in coming to a view on the Recommendations contained in this report, the Cabinet Member is required to consider whether in light of the duty held under the 1906 Act, it would still be reasonable to exercise the power under section 145 of the Local Government Act 1972, to close off part of the Park to facilitate the Wireless and associated events applied for. In so saying, the attendance at music and dance events is itself recreational, and therefore within the statutory trust.
- 9.2.9 Any decision reached by the Cabinet Member is required to be one which is balanced, rational and in the interests of all park users in terms of an overall assessment of the benefits and detriments of public recreation in relation to different sections or user groups within the community. The analysis of the objections to the events, the comments made by officers on those objections, and the outcome of the EqlA are key to aiding the Cabinet Member in the decision-making process. In adopting that approach, there is no legal reason why the

Cabinet Member could not adopt the Recommendations in this report as an outcome.

### 9.3 Equality

- 9.3.1 The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to:
- eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
  - advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
  - foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not;
  - the three parts of the duty applies to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status apply to the first part of the duty.
- 9.3.2 An equality impact assessment was completed to accompany the decision in December 2013 to adopt Haringey's Outdoor Events Policy, which governs the assessment of event applications to Finsbury Park. The policy does not permit events where the sole purpose is as a religious act of worship. The impact assessment acknowledged that this restriction could have the effect of discouraging religious or belief organisations from using the park for major worship-based events. However, it reasoned that this restriction could be justified because such religious/belief-based events by their very nature could exclude others who do not share that religion/belief from attending the event or using the park more generally.
- 9.3.3 The Council's Events Policy ensures that event providers operate in accordance with the Equality Act and do not discriminate against groups who share a protected characteristic.
- 9.3.4 The Policy aims to strike a balance between ensuring that the parks, such as Finsbury Park, can be used as a community asset for all groups to access for the majority of the year, against the need to generate income from hosting major events and for these to contribute to the borough's cultural and leisure offer.
- 9.3.5 An equality impact assessment has been completed to accompany the Festival Republic Events applications and can be found in Appendix 3. The assessment explores impact on residents in the immediate wards surrounding Finsbury Park: Stroud Green (LB Haringey), Harringay (LB Haringey), Brownswood (LB Hackney), Finsbury Park (LB Islington) as well as groups who shared protected characteristics.
- 9.3.6 The assessment identifies that children, women with children and people with disabilities will be, to a limited extent, impacted negatively by the proposal, as they are more likely to use the park. However, this needs to be balanced against the identified benefits for the community, improving equality of opportunities and fostering good relations. The Council is taking a number of actions to mitigate the negative impact on specific groups with protected characteristics arising from the events.



- 9.3.7 The Council is committed to working with event organisers to reduce the effects of noise from events on all residents living near the park and will enforce the individual conditions that accompany the event's permission including those related to reducing disruption, number of days (including set up) and maximum event space.

## **10. Use of Appendices**

- 10.1 Appendix 1 – List of Finsbury Park stakeholders who were consulted
- 10.2 Appendix 2 – Finsbury Park stakeholders' full responses to major park hire applications
- 10.3 Appendix 3 – Equality Impact Assessment: Applications by Festival Republic Ltd to hire Finsbury Park for two multi-event weekends including the Wireless Festival and three days of music concerts in 2021
- 10.4 Part B – Not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

## **11. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

- 11.1 Haringey Outdoor Events Policy -  
<http://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/documents/s48887/OEP%20-%20CLEARED%20COVERING%20REPORT.pdf>

## Appendix 1:

## List of Finsbury Park recognised stakeholders who were consulted

Recognised stakeholder consultation		
As set out in the Outdoor Events Policy, stakeholders were emailed on 5 October 2021 with details of the Festival Republic park hire application received for Finsbury Park 2022.		
38 external stakeholder groups, plus internal Council colleagues and statutory bodies including the police, fire, ambulance and transport providers were emailed giving 10 working days to respond to the application with comments.		
A full list of stakeholders is below. Those marked in green provided a response to the consultation.		
External stakeholders	Internal council colleagues	Statutory bodies
Access to Sport	Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport and the Climate Emergency	London Fire Brigade
Alpha Dog Club	Parks Service	Metropolitan Police Service
Ambler Primary School	Licensing / Regulatory Services	London Ambulance Service
Be Military Fitness	Food Safety Team	Transport for London
Edible Landscapes	Emergency Planning Team	Govia Thameslink Railway
Finsbury Park Art Hut	Health & Safety Team	
Finsbury Park Boats	Highways	
Finsbury Park Bowls Club	Neighbourhood Action Team	
Finsbury Park Cafe	Parking Services	
Finsbury Park Sports Partnership	Veolia	
Finsbury Park Trust	Director of Public Health	
Furtherfield		
Harringay Green Lanes Traders Association		
Hermitage New River Residents Assoc		
Highbury Community Association		
Ladder Community Safety Partnership		
London Borough of Hackney		
London Borough of Islington		
London Mets Softball Club		
Manor House Development Trust		
Museum of Homelessness		
Park View Cafe		
Parkrun		
Parkwood Primary School		
Pedal Power		
Regiment Fitness		
Stroud Green Residents' Association		
Stroud Green School		
Stroud Green Traders Association		
The Friends of Finsbury Park		
Try Tag Rugby		
Harringay Ward Members x 3 (LB Haringey)		
Stroud Green Ward Members x 3 (LB Haringey)		
Seven Sisters Ward Members x 3 (LB Haringey)		
St Ann's Ward Members x 3 (LB Haringey)		
Brownwood Ward Members x 2 (LB Hackney)		

Finsbury Park Ward Members x 3 (LB Islington)		
Highbury West Ward Members x 3 (LB Islington)		

## Appendix 2:

**Finsbury Park recognised stakeholders' full responses to Festival Republic park hire application – 2022 events**

**From:** Highbury Community Association

**Application by Festival Republic/Live Nation for major commercial events in Finsbury Park in 2022 – Reference Number: HGYEVE000481**

**Feedback from the Highbury Community Association**  
(highburycommunity.org and facebook.com/highburycommunity)

The Highbury Community Association (a Finsbury Park Events Stakeholder) has over 700 members – mainly residents living in the Highbury West ward in Islington, an area greatly affected by these major events. The Association is run by local residents and has no paid staff. An Annual General Meeting and other events are usually held each year, and a quarterly newsletter is produced, with the primary purpose of protecting and improving our area.

We are **objecting to this application** to Haringey Council, in our capacity as a Finsbury Park Events Stakeholder, for the reasons below:

Events proposed	Dates in 2022	Daily capacity	Licence Holder / Organiser
Wireless Festival	<b>On site: 27 June</b>  Event: 8,9,10 July	45k	Live Nation / Festival Republic
TBC, Lovebox, George Ezra	Event: 15,16,17 July	45k	
<b>Total days in the Park= 27 days</b>	<b>Off site: 23 July</b>		

### 1. Loss of much of the Park:

#### For most of July:

From 27 June to 23 July inclusive (27 days), nearly 30% of Finsbury Park will be closed off with high barrier walls for major events - during the summer period when people want and need to enjoy a park the most, particularly during these stressful times, with economic and health matters having affected many local people detrimentally.

**And for most of August:** As well, Krankbrothers have applied to use Finsbury Park for most of August (times including set up and clearance). If approved, this would result in the loss of much of the Park for two months in summer, and create disturbance throughout the Park during this time.

### 2. Disturbances throughout the Park:

2.1 The Park area facing Seven Sisters Road is where most Islington (and Hackney) residents enter the Park. During the days when major events are being set up and run, users of the park are disturbed by truck movements, high barrier walls, crowds, drug dealing etc - making the Park most unwelcoming and difficult to access. The huge walls stop many people wanting to walk up to the café from the Seven Sisters Road entrance. Many people give up and so young children are deprived of enjoying the three play areas near the café.

Appendix 2:

**Finsbury Park recognised stakeholders' full responses to Festival Republic park hire application – 2022 events**

Even in the areas **within** the Park **away** from where the events are being held, the noise and pollution from the machinery being used for the setting up and clearance, and during the events, are most disturbing and not conducive to trying to have some peace and quiet somewhere, or breathe in fresh air.

**2.2 Impact on the grassed areas:** The impact of major events on the fabric of Finsbury Park spoiling the grassed areas for months and years. It took nearly two years after the last major event in 2019 for the grassed areas to recover fully, and the Park now looks glorious with many more people of all ages enjoying the peace and greenery. The Park is now in the state that it should be in - as a public and essential resource for people.

**3. Effects on children and young people:**

**3.1 Studying:**

Most schools do not close until the third week of July and many students during early July have end-of-year exams. It is disgraceful that students living in the flats and houses overlooking the Park will be disturbed whilst studying, perhaps some having to put in extra work due to having missed too much school due to Covid. It is proposed that the events will end at midnight which is far too late when people have to go to school or work the next day. No matter how much the noise is controlled it can still be a disturbance throughout the area. And there is much noise in the surrounding streets as people leave the events.

**3.2 Safety in the Park compromised:**

*Events involve many movements of vehicles before, during and after each one.*

*These traffic movements cause pollution in a wider area of the park, and are noisy and dangerous for joggers, cyclists, walkers etc*

**3.3 Loss of green open spaces to play and relax:**

The summer period is when people want to enjoy peaceful and green open spaces, and when children want/need to play in a clean environment. Finsbury Park is situated in a densely-populated, deprived inner-city area and the Park is essential for mental and physical well-being- as proven during lockdown. Government (national and local) policies promote physical activity: holding major events in Parks contradicts these policies. Many local families cannot afford to go away and so Finsbury Park is essential during summer holidays for recreation, peace, meeting friends.

**3.4 Vicinity to the play areas:**

*Brand new play areas have been developed near the café. These are so popular and will be greatly disturbed by these major events- with the noise, pollution from vehicles, the smell of the toilets, the crowds hanging around the perimeter of the high fences, the unpleasantness of getting to the play areas, particularly coming from the entrances on Seven Sisters and near Finsbury Park station (which most of our members use). Surely children's well-being is more important than a large, fee-paying event which could be held instead in a suitable venue or away from such a built up area?*

**4. Disturbance throughout the area outside the Park:**

## Appendix 2:

## Finsbury Park recognised stakeholders' full responses to Festival Republic park hire application – 2022 events

During major events in previous years, much anti-social behaviour has occurred in our area, including: people defaecating in front gardens; open drug-dealing; cars tooting and groups shouting after the events. These disturbances lasted to midnight (and even later along Blackstock Road), keeping children awake, as well as affecting people needing to sleep for work or to sit exams the next day.

These disturbances were mitigated in part in 2019 due to concerted action by the London Borough of Islington with local residents, funded mainly by the event organisers – closing roads, diverting buses, more noise monitoring, community enforcement patrols, more complaints lines, and more cleaning of streets. Review meetings were held before and during the events, taking up much officer and local people's time – voluntarily given due to the need to monitor the situation, and care for our area. Despite all these actions, there was still noticeable anti-social behaviour at all times during the events, not helped by the amount of drug dealing which seemed to be going on.

### 5. The size and number of events:

**These events are on average three times larger** than other events held in the Park, and therefore have impacts that totally eclipse these - which is why the Highbury Community Association supported the Friends of Finsbury Park in opposing Wireless specifically.

*There are still many other events held- fairs, smaller events, circuses during the rest of the year. A park should be a park, and not a venue for large events for much of the summer, ignoring the mental and physical well-being of local residents, particularly children.*

**6. Making the Park pay for itself:** Haringey Council stated in its Formal Consultation invitation (October 2020) to respond to events planned for 2021 that: 'Event income is vital to the continued upkeep and improvements to Finsbury Park.'

Haringey stated that the park would be used in 2021 for a total of only 25 days (overtaken by Covid); and that: 'This approach (of only 25 days) will reduce the level of income received but allow the park to generate sufficient income for its basic maintenance, enhanced staffing levels and a reasonable level of investment within the park each year.'

**HCA response** to this statement was: Does this mean that Finsbury Park has to pay for its own upkeep and improvements. We thought that a park is a public good and not an entity that has to earn its own keep. Do other parks in Haringey have to pay for themselves?

And now, if a total of 'only' 25 days is sufficient, does this mean that no other large events in 2022 (such as those proposed by Krankbrothers) will be approved?

Thank you for your attention to these concerns.

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**From:** Finsbury Park Parkrun

Parkrun has no objection to other events taking place in the park and we accept this means that we sometimes need to cancel. However, we appreciate when efforts are made to allow parkrun to take place alongside other events. For Wireless we would definitely expect to cancel on the two event days. Given that we are also likely to cancel for the two Krankbrother events it would be good if we were able to run on some of the set-up/take-down days for Wireless because otherwise we'll have quite a big summer break. If was a case of missing three weeks for Wireless event days/take down and then missing two for Krankbrother we'd

**Appendix 2:**

**Finsbury Park recognised stakeholders' full responses to Festival Republic park hire application – 2022 events**

probably cancel the single run in the middle (30th July) as it's often hard to recruit volunteers for standalone dates.

If parkrun is to go ahead we would need access to the main carriageway from the Oxford Road gate to the traffic barrier by the Green Lanes entry with a traffic curfew from 8.45-9.45am (see attached map). Most other things we can work around but if there are things likely to block our route we need at least two, ideally three weeks notice to be able to submit and receive approval for a revised risk assessment.

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**From:** Regulatory Services, Haringey

Response from Regulatory Services to application HGYEVE000481

Impact of major events in local area:

The proposed concurrent weekends of proposed events at 45,000 capacity will see a significant impact in the local area ranging from residents being impacted by just the sheer increase in people in the area, noise that is generated, anti social behaviour including street drinking, public urination, increased litter and traffic as well as the increased impact on the late night economy. Regulating these matters will be significant and large and well beyond BAU.

The events are always viewed as a work in progress with the expectation that Festival Republic address what worked well and matters that need to be improved upon for the next time as part of an ongoing process in staging events in Finsbury Park.

Residents have had over 18 months of no major events in Finsbury Park in Summer 2020/21 due to the Covid situation and there has been significant push back against subsequent applications for smaller events that were lodged to host event in the Park earlier in the Summer.

The return of Wireless in 2022 will bring significant challenges for residents that have experienced a quiet Summer 2020 and 2021 in their local park.

The major events season at Finsbury Park requires a 'whole Council approach' to ensure that the environmental considerations that impact on residents are fully addressed, this also means taking into consideration the same factors for residents of Hackney and Islington who are also affected.

Noise requirements:

There is work to be undertaken to review and clarify the measuring locations at the various points as a condition of the Premises Licence, in particular Rowley Gardens and Woodstock Road locations. The resourcing of a Specialist Noise Officer for these events will be an additional financial impact on the Service, but a necessary resource nonetheless.

Enforcement provisions:

A scaling up of resources at an early stage so that Haringey can better plan resources for the major events, this would include officers to carry out

Noise monitoring across the agreed nearest noise sensitive locations to the park

A robust cleansing plan that incorporates cleaning in the public highway and affected side



**Appendix 2:**

**Finsbury Park recognised stakeholders' full responses to Festival Republic park hire application – 2022 events**

roads, which is audited by Haringey Waste Enforcement officers.

Anti social behaviour officers to deal with street trading and a robust ticket tout operation on the major event days

Food Officers to carry out inspections onsite of all food stalls

Trading Standards Officers to undertake underage testing (these events attract a young crowd) and ensure compliance with alcohol measures and merchandise sales onsite.

In addition to the above the Council will need to ensure that Festival Republic have sufficient measures in place to support women and young girls who may find themselves in need of help either within the event space or outside in the crowds gathered. The requirement for WAVE training to be undertaken by Festival Republic staff and the Councils own staff should be compulsory. <https://nbcc.police.uk/guidance/wave-presentation>

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## EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The **Equality Act 2010** places a '**General Duty**' on all public bodies to have '**due regard**' to the need to:

- Eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advancing equality of opportunity for those with 'protected characteristics' and those without them
- Fostering good relations between those with 'protected characteristics' and those without them.

In addition, the Council complies with the Marriage (same sex couples) Act 2013.

### Stage 1 – Screening

Please complete the equalities screening form. If screening identifies that your proposal is likely to impact on protected characteristics, please proceed to stage 2 and complete a full Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA).

### Stage 2 – Full Equality Impact Assessment

An EqIA provides evidence for meeting the Council's commitment to equality and the responsibilities under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

**When an EqIA has been undertaken, it should be submitted as an attachment/appendix to the final decision making report. This is so the decision maker (e.g. Cabinet, Committee, senior leader) can use the EqIA to help inform their final decision. The EqIA once submitted will become a public document, published alongside the minutes and record of the decision.**

Please read the Council's Equality Impact Assessment Guidance before beginning the EqIA process.

1. Responsibility for the Equality Impact Assessment	
<b>Name of proposal</b>	Applications by Festival Republic Ltd (the Applicant) to hire Finsbury Park for multi-event weekends including the Wireless Festival, Lovebox, George Ezra and one other music concert in 2022
<b>Service area</b>	Parks & Leisure Services
<b>Officer completing assessment</b>	Sarah Jones: Events & Partnerships Manager
<b>Equalities/ HR Advisor</b>	Jim Pomeroy: Policy & Equalities Team Manager
<b>Cabinet meeting date (if applicable)</b>	Cabinet Member Signing
<b>Director/Assistant Director</b>	Mark Stevens: Assistant Director Direct Services

## 2. Summary of the proposal

*Please outline in no more than 3 paragraphs*

- *The proposal which is being assessed*
- *The key stakeholders who may be affected by the policy or proposal*
- *The decision-making route being taken*

The Council has received a park hire application from Festival Republic Ltd to hire part of Finsbury Park for two consecutive weekends in July 2022, to host major music events. The proposed events are:

- Wireless Festival – Friday 8, Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 July
- One day to be confirmed – Friday 15 July
- Lovebox – Saturday 16 July
- George Ezra – Sunday 17 July

The Outdoor Events Policy, adopted by the Council in 2014, details the approval process for determining applications. The Policy requires that, where major event applications are submitted, prior authority should be given by the Cabinet Member, as a non-key decision. The criteria for major events include:

- expected attendance is over 10,000;
- events last more than 2 days with 5,000 or more in attendance;
- organiser occupies the site for more than 14 days including set up and take down periods.

As part of the approval process for every park hire application, the Policy stipulates the need for consultation to take place. Paragraph 5.1.6 of the Policy states “*Consultation will involve all stakeholders, including Friends Groups, Area Park Managers, Ward Councillors, Cabinet Member for Environment and the members of the Haringey Safety Advisory Group. Other consultees may be added where appropriate to the specific park or open space*”.

Whilst located in Haringey, Finsbury Park sits on the borders of the neighbouring boroughs of Hackney and Islington. Therefore, recognised stakeholders also include residents’ associations and schools from the three boroughs, Hackney and Islington Council officers, councillors from seven adjoining wards including Hackney and Islington and all park user groups and leaseholders.

An EqlA was carried out at the time of developing the Outdoor Events Policy. However, it is recognised that major events do have different site layouts and therefore could have differing impacts on park users. To plan for and mitigate these effects, individual EqlAs for specific major event applications will assess the level of potential impact on recognised groups with protected characteristics.

The proposal is for 2 consecutive weekends of events to take place in Haringey. Wireless Festival, a three-day weekend of music headline acts, has taken place in Finsbury Park for a number of years.

**Decision making process**

The Council's Events Policy stipulates that major event applications are required to be determined with the prior agreement of the Cabinet Member.

If authority is given, then officers will give in-principal agreement to the Applicant for the event application to progress. The event will then be subject to lengthy discussions with relevant authorities, including public health and licensing before final agreement is given.

In adopting the Policy, the Council established its commitment to using the Park for a limited number of major events each year. Accordingly, the only other alternative option which would be considered would be to reject the application. This option was rejected, on the grounds that the events do not fall within any of the grounds set out in paragraph 5.3 of the Policy for automatic refusal.

### **3. What data will you use to inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on protected groups of service users and/or staff?**

*Identify the main sources of evidence, both quantitative and qualitative, that supports your analysis. Please include any gaps and how you will address these*

*This could include, for example, data on the Council's workforce, equalities profile of service users, recent surveys, research, results of relevant consultations, Haringey Borough Profile, Haringey Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and any other sources of relevant information, local, regional or national. For restructures, please complete the restructure EqIA which is available on the HR pages.*

<b>Protected group</b>	<b>Service users</b>	<b>Staff</b>
Sex	Ward Profiles: Harringay, Stroud Green wards (LB Haringey), Brownswood ward (LB Hackney), Finsbury Park ward (LB Islington)	N/A
Gender Reassignment	We do not hold this data. The Equality and Human Rights Commission have published a national estimate.	N/A
Age	Ward Profiles: Harringay, Stroud Green wards (LB Haringey), Brownswood ward (LB Hackney), Finsbury Park Ward (LB Islington) Stakeholder feedback	N/A
Disability	Ward Profiles: Harringay, Stroud Green wards (LB Haringey), Brownswood ward (LB Hackney), Finsbury Park ward (LB Islington); Stakeholder feedback;	N/A

	LB Haringey Complaints Data	
Race & Ethnicity	Ward Profiles: Harringay, Stroud Green wards (LB Haringey), Brownswood ward (LB Hackney), Finsbury Park Ward (LB Islington)	N/A
Sexual Orientation	ONS Annual Population Data 2017	N/A
Religion or Belief (or No Belief)	Ward Profiles: Harringay, Stroud Green wards (LB Haringey), Brownswood ward (LB Hackney), Finsbury Park ward (LB Islington)	N/A
Pregnancy & Maternity	Ward Profiles: Harringay, Stroud Green wards (LB Haringey), Brownswood ward (LB Hackney), Finsbury Park ward (LB Islington)	N/A
Marriage and Civil Partnership	Ward Profiles: Harringay, Stroud Green wards (LB Haringey), Brownswood ward (LB Hackney), Finsbury Park ward (LB Islington)	N/A

**Outline the key findings of your data analysis. Which groups are disproportionately affected by the proposal? How does this compare with the impact on wider service users and/or the borough's demographic profile? Have any inequalities been identified?**

*Explain how you will overcome this within the proposal.*

*Further information on how to do data analysis can be found in the guidance.*

The Applicant has applied to hire the space known as the Bandstand Field to facilitate the main event area for both weekends.

The Bandstand Field is a green expanse of grass, which slopes gently down to the southern boundary of the Park, creating a natural amphitheatre.

The prospective events taking place in July require the Bandstand Field, the grass area to the north and south of the tennis courts, the reservoir field and the strip of grass running along the southern perimeter of the Park, along Seven Sisters Road, between Finsbury Gate and Manor House. This is to accommodate attendee and staffing numbers of up to 49,999 as specified under the Live Nation Premises Licence conditions.

In preparation for the similar 2020 events, which were subsequently cancelled due to the pandemic, the Applicant had approached the community-led sports charity, the Finsbury Park Sports Partnership, with a view to hiring the tennis courts in the Park, over the consecutive major weekends in July, to facilitate the placement of toilets. Although a decision on this hadn't been determined by the time of the events cancellation, it was likely that, if agreement had been given, these would only be closed on event days, plus the day after to allow cleaning to take place. It is anticipated that if park hire is agreed in principle, then discussions to use the tennis courts will once again start.

The total area used for the events equates to 30% of the Park (31% if the tennis courts are included). The remaining 70/69% of the Park remains open to the public at all times.

Users of Finsbury Park come from all ages, backgrounds and abilities. There is a wide range of facilities in the park, providing the opportunity for varying recreational activity, aimed at both general park users and specific user groups.

However, we can infer that residents who live in the immediate area are more likely to use the Park and be impacted by the events. We also know that these impacts affect children, women and people with disabilities, who are vulnerable due to their protected characteristic. This assessment addresses the Council and event promoter's actions, which mitigate any impact. The tables below summarise the demographic data for residents in Harringay, Stroud Green (LB Haringey); Brownswood (LB Hackney); Finsbury Park (LB Islington) wards.

#### A) Sex (*Census data, 2011*)

	Female	Male
Harringay (LB Haringey)	48.6%	51.4%
Stroud Green (LB Haringey)	50.2%	49.8%
Haringey	50.5%	49.5%
Brownswood (LB Hackney)	49.6%	50.4%
Hackney	50.4%	49.6%
Finsbury Park (LB Islington)	50.2%	49.8%
Islington	50.8%	49.2%
London	50.9%	49.1%
England	50.8%	49.2%

As in common with national and regional trends, there are slightly more females than males, with the exception of Harringay and Brownswood wards.

#### Gender reassignment

We do not hold local data on gender reassignment. The Equality and Human Rights Commission estimate that there are between 300,000-500,000 transgender people in the UK<sup>1</sup>. It is anticipated that the major event applications will not have a disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic. All of the events proposed in this application do not discriminate entry on the grounds of sex, which aligns with the Council's Outdoor Events Policy.

#### B) Age (*GLA Population Projection data, 2015*)

	Harringay	Haringey	London
0 – 15	15.2%	19.4%	20%
16 – 64	77.3%	71.6%	68.6%
65+	7.4%	9%	11.4%

	Stroud Green	Haringey	London
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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/trans-inequalities-reviewed/introduction-review>



0 – 15	15.5%	19.4%	20%
16 – 64	76.7%	71.6%	68.6%
65+	7.8%	9%	11.4%

	<b>Brownswood</b>	Hackney	London
0 – 15	13.9%	20.4%	20%
16 – 64	80.5%	72.4%	68.6%
65+	5.6%	7.2%	11.4%

	<b>Finsbury Park</b>	Islington	London
0 – 15	17.6%	15.9%	20%
16 – 64	73.9%	75.5%	68.6%
65+	8.5%	8.6%	11.4%

Ward profile data for Stroud Green, Harringay, Brownswood and Finsbury Park shows that, on average, 15.55% of the local population is aged between 0 – 15, which is lower than the London average of 20%.

Many of the play facilities within the Park are aimed at children under the age of 15. All these facilities remain open at all times during the events. Wayfinding signage is put in place at various locations around the Park, detailing this.

Strict noise controls for the event are in place and monitored by both noise consultants employed by the Applicant, and local authority noise officers. Events taking place on Fridays and Saturdays end at 22:30, on Sundays it will end at 21.30 (as required in the Live Nation Premises Licence), taking into consideration that the working week begins the following day.

During the stakeholder consultation, one residents' group raised the issue that the events will take place at a time when young people may have end-of-year exams and could be affected by the music. This is not an issue to consider as any exams or assessments should be finished by the time the events take place. However, for those needing a quiet space, the Council will ensure that all libraries within Haringey are open to those wanting a quiet place to work. All of Haringey's libraries are open from Monday to Saturday with many also open on Sundays. These opening times are subject to Covid regulations.

### C) Disability

	Haringey	Hackney	Islington	London	England and Wales
Day-to-day activity limited a lot	6.8%	7.3%	8%	6.7%	8.3%
Day-to-day activity limited a little	7.2%	7.1%	7.6%	7.4%	9.3%
Day-to-day activity not limited	86.0%	85.5%	84.3%	85.8%	82.4%
Day-to-day activity limited a lot: Age 16-64	3.8%	4.4%	4.7%	3.4%	3.6%

Day-to-day activity limited a little: Age 16-64	4.6%	4.9%	4.9%	4.2%	4.6%
Day-to-day activity not limited: Age 16-64	62.4%	62.8%	65.5%	61.5%	56.5%

Haringey has roughly the same proportion of people where day-to-day activity is limited to some extent as London, but lower than the national average.

During the build and break for events, thoroughfares are kept open to park users to transgress the Park north to south, east to west.

For 2022, it has been agreed that the main carriageway from the zebra crossing by the lakeside café, down to Finsbury Gate will only be open to pedestrians and cyclists during the peak times of the morning and evening rush hour – 5-9am and 3-7pm. At all other times pedestrians and cyclists will be directed to use the pathway between Oxford Road and Finsbury Gate which runs parallel between the railway line and tennis courts.

The decision to allow the closure of this part of the carriageway has been made after careful consideration, and with the safety of park users at the forefront. The Applicant has facilitated the continued use of the carriageway by pedestrians and cyclists. This has included segregating pedestrian, cycle and vehicle usage into specific lanes. But in recent times, it has become harder to manage this with the increase of cyclists and the speed in which cyclists enter this area, often ignoring instruction.

The pathway from Hornsey Wood Tavern Gate through to the central play area remains open during the majority of the build and break but is closed on event days and the immediate day which follows, to allow the site to be cleared and made safe for the public.

During the period that these two thoroughfares are closed to the public, alternative routes are made available and publicised to ensure access by park users is maintained. All routes ensure that access for those with disabilities is maintained.

Pedal Power, a cycling proficiency trainer aimed at people with disabilities, is based in the track and gym within the Park. IT occasionally uses the tarmac area near to the ball courts for some of its sessions. This area is used by the Applicant for storage during the times of the events and the build and break.

All efforts are made to ensure the group's activity continues whilst events are taking place in the Park, with many of their sessions scheduled for the hardstanding area being relocating to the track and gym. The Council pays for any additional charges incurred as a result of this relocation. An offer has also been made in the past by Stroud Green School to accommodate the group if needed.

By hosting major events in Finsbury Park, the Council is able to use some of the income to provide financial support to groups such as Pedal Power. Over the past few years, the Group has received over £40,000 in funding which has provided extra activity days, new equipment including a range of bikes allowing people of different abilities to benefit from cycling training and increased training sessions over the summer.

### Parking for blue badges holders

Since the pandemic started all public parking within the Park has been stopped, with the exception of Blue Badge holders who make use of dedicated bays just within the Endymion Road entrance. This will continue whilst the Applicant is in the park, along with allowing recognised stakeholders to also maintain access.

The Council use all feedback to work with the Metropolitan Police and other agencies to ensure that any event conditions are enforced promptly. In previous years, the Council has responded to complaints of insufficient parking restrictions on residential roads and enforced extensions to CPZs and other restrictions. The Council will continue to mitigate any potential impact on residents who live near to the park and those with disabilities.

### D) Race & Ethnicity (*Census data, 2011*)

	Black and Minority Ethnic
Harringay (LB Haringey)	34.5%
Stroud Green (LB Haringey)	25.9%
Haringey	39.5%
Brownswood (LB Hackney)	38.2%
Hackney	45.3%
Finsbury Park (LB Islington)	42.9%
Islington	31.8%
London	40.2%
England	14.6%

The data shows us that the proportion of residents who are of Black and Minority Ethnicity in the wards immediately surrounding Finsbury Park is comparable to the London average. The proportion of BAME residents is considerably higher than the England average.

As a condition of hiring the Park, the Council requires applicants to install way-finding signage during the build and break, and on event days to inform people that facilities remain accessible to the public and thoroughfares used by park users remain open.

It is recognised that the affected wards contain a high number of different ethnic groups, whose first language may not be English. Therefore, all wayfinding signage is assessed and designed using maps and symbols, with limited use of the written words.

### E) Sexual Orientation

We do not hold ward or borough level data on sexual orientation, and it is not collected nationally through the Census. However, the ONS estimates that 3.7% of Haringey's population are lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB), which is the 15<sup>th</sup> largest LGB community in the country<sup>2</sup>.

All major event applications must not discriminate on grounds of sexual orientation. Therefore, any major event that takes place in a Haringey park is open to people of every sexual orientation.

#### F) Religion

	Harringay (LB Haringey)	Stroud Green (LB Haringey)	Brownswood (LB Hackney)	Finsbury Park (LB Islington)	London	England & Wales
Christian	39%	36.5%	37.3%	37.9%	48.4%	59.3%
Buddhist	1.3%	0.9%	1.3%	1.1%	1.0%	0.4%
Hindu	2.5%	0.7%	0.6%	1.0%	5.0%	1.5%
Jewish	0.6%	1.7%	2.8%	0.6%	1.8%	0.5%
Muslim	14.1%	7.3%	11.3%	15.9%	12.4%	4.8%
Sikh	0.3%	0.2%	0.7%	0.2%	1.5%	0.8%
Other religion	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.4%	0.6%	0.4%
No religion	32.7%	42.7%	37.1%	25.2%	20.7%	25.1%
Religion not stated	8.7%	9.4%	8.2%	17.2%	8.5%	7.2%

The Haringey, Hackney and Islington wards affected by the proposal have lower than average Christian communities compared to the regional and national average but has larger Jewish and Muslim populations. All three boroughs have a larger population who do not have a religion.

#### G) Pregnancy and maternity

The number of 0–4-year-olds in the wards affected in the 2011 Census were:

	Proportion of 0-4 year olds
Harringay (LB Haringey)	6.4%
Stroud Green (LB Haringey)	6.0%
Haringey	7.1%
Brownswood (LB Hackney)	4.9%
Hackney	7.8%
Finsbury Park (LB Islington)	6.8%
Islington	5.9%
London	7.2%
England & Wales	6.2%

Haringey has a higher proportion compared to the England and Wales average but is marginally below the London average.

	Proportion of households with dependent children
Harringay (LB Haringey)	23.8%
Stroud Green (LB Haringey)	24.2%
Haringey	31.4%

Brownswood (LB Hackney)	21.3%
Hackney	32.4%
Finsbury Park (LB Islington)	
Islington	
London	30.9%
England & Wales	29.1%

Haringey has a larger proportion of households with dependent children compared to the regional and national average.

#### H) Marital and civil partnership status

	Married (heterosexual couples)	Civil Partnership
Harringay (LB Haringey)	28.5%	0.7%
Stroud Green (LB Haringey)	27.5%	1.1%
Haringey	32.2%	0.6%
Brownswood (LB Hackney)		
Hackney	26.8%	0.6%
Finsbury Park (LB Islington)		
Islington	24.8%	0.8%
London	40%	0.4%
England & Wales	47%	0.2%

The number of married people (only available to heterosexual couples at the time) is significantly lower than in London and England. However, the proportion of people in civil partnerships is higher in the area compared to the London and England and Wales averages.

#### 4. a) How will consultation and/or engagement inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on protected groups of residents, service users and/or staff?

*Please outline which groups you may target and how you will have targeted them*

Further information on consultation is contained within accompanying EqIA guidance

The Council's Outdoor Events Policy stipulates the need to consult recognised stakeholders, including Friends Groups, Area Parks Managers, Ward Councillors, the Cabinet Member for Environment and the members of the Haringey Safety Advisory Group. Other consultees may be added where appropriate for the specific park or open space.

The Council established the Finsbury Park Events Stakeholder Group, which meets regularly in the run up and following a major event, to update and inform all recognised stakeholders of Finsbury Park as event plans are developed. It is in this forum that

issues and mitigating actions may be discussed in the lead up to events. This group is chaired by the Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport and the Climate Emergency and is attended by the event Applicant, as and when required.

In discharging the requirement to consult, the Council sent details of the applications to thirty-eight stakeholder groups by email dated 5 October 2021, giving 10 working days to respond to the application with comments.

During the Judicial Review launched by the Friends of Finsbury Park in 2016, challenging the Council's powers to hire out the Park for the Wireless Event, the High Court defined the consultees as 'informed consultees' who had opportunities to share their views within this 10-day period. This, and a subsequent appeal heard in the Court of Appeal in 2017, were found in the Council's favour with all points raised, dismissed.

#### **4. b) Outline the key findings of your consultation / engagement activities once completed, particularly in terms of how this relates to groups that share the protected characteristics**

*Explain how will the consultation's findings will shape and inform your proposal and the decision making process, and any modifications made?*

Of the list of consultees, only those highlighted in green at Appendix 1 provided a total of 3 responses broken down as follows:

- (a) 1 response was received from a residents' association: Highbury Community Association
- (b) 1 response was received from Parkrun
- (c) 1 response was received from the Council's Regulatory Services Team

The comments are set out in full at Appendix 2. However, they can be summarised in the main as being concerns around: the loss of the park area and disturbance within the Park and damage to grass areas; effects on children and young people; disturbance throughout the area and outside the park; size and number of events; Parkrun operation; noise and enforcement.

The Policy allows for up to five major events (10,000 or more attendees) to take place in the Park in any one year, for a duration of between 1-3 days at a time. This number will not be exceeded. In fact, as detailed within the main report, the Council is seeking to allow substantially fewer events than have happened in previous years.

A cross-party working group has been created, attended by senior officers from Haringey, Hackney and Islington Councils, to focus on issues related to Finsbury Park. Officers will use the forum to discuss potential impacts on all three boroughs. Improved communication routes between the neighbouring boroughs and Festival Republic resulted in additional resources introduced for 2019. We expect these improvements will be built on for the 2022 events season.

The Council takes extensive steps to ensure the set up and dismantling of the events are sufficient for the safe installation of an event area, while retaining as much public access as possible. The Council will work closely with the event promoters' months in advance of

the event to agree how a phased closure of the event space is managed as build progresses and to ensure that vehicle movement through the park is managed and controlled during these periods. These plans are shared with the Finsbury Park Event Stakeholder Group, to seek feedback and comments for improvement, which can be discussed in detail with the promoters. The proposed 2022 events season proposes to reduce the number of events, thereby reducing the build and break periods. This will mean that vehicle movement is further reduced.

Since 2014, the Council has locked the Oxford Road gate at 16:00 on event days, this time was extended to 18:00 in 2019, preventing event attendees from egressing on to residential streets following the event. This is advertised in advice of each event, with alternative routes provided at the gate.

Parking restrictions are implemented in the park during the major event period. Parking in the park on event days is limited to staff working at the events. Public parking is prohibited, with the exception of Blue Badge holders and pre-arranged parking for recognised park stakeholder groups. The Council and event organisers ensure that parking restrictions are clearly communicated in advance of and throughout the period of the events.

An improved security and stewarding plan was introduced in 2018 to cover the Hackney side streets. Festival Republic committed to providing the same level of cover for the Hackney streets, as well as significantly increasing the number of security based in Islington streets in 2019. Security is provided by a specialist, high-end security management company that is known for providing exceptional standards of specialised security, whilst providing high quality customer service. Festival Republic is committed to improving security in the local area year on year, and this continues to be an ongoing discussion.

As well as having static security personnel based at each junction off Seven Sisters Road, there will be roaming personnel patrolling each of the roads, plus a response team on hand.

During major event days, the Finsbury Park Major Event Day CPZ is implemented, ensuring resident parking in the streets surrounding the Park is maintained. All promoters operating in the Park ensure that their attendees know that there is limited parking and promote travel to the event via public transport.

## 5. What is the likely impact of the proposal on groups of service users and/or staff that share the protected characteristics?

*Please explain the likely differential impact on each of the 9 equality strands, whether positive or negative. Where it is anticipated there will be no impact from the proposal, please outline the evidence that supports this conclusion.*

Further information on assessing impact on different groups is contained within accompanying EqlA guidance



**1. Sex**

Although the ward-level data shows that the male to female ratio is broadly in line with national trends, we know that women are more likely to be carers to young children, who use the Park, and therefore the proposal disproportionately impacts this group.

However, any impact is mitigated as the proposed events will occupy approximately 30% of the Park (31% if the tennis courts are included) leaving 70/69% of the Park open to the public, with all formal play and council managed sports facilities remaining available to use. The Council and the event Applicant will ensure that signage is in place to direct park users away from the event and to remaining available spaces in the Park.

The Applicant will be required to comply with standard Equality Act requirements in order to prevent any discrimination based on this characteristic.

Positive		Negative	X	Neutral impact		Unknown Impact	
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**2. Gender reassignment**

We are not expecting any impact. The event promoters will be required to comply with standard Equality Act requirements in order to prevent any discrimination based on this characteristic.

Positive		Negative		Neutral impact		Unknown Impact	X
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**3. Age**

The report identifies that children are more likely to use the Park's facilities and, therefore, they are more likely to be impacted by the proposed events. However, the events will occupy approximately 30% of the Park (31% if the tennis courts are included) leaving 70/69% of the Park open to the public, with all formal play and council run sports facilities remaining available to use. The Council and the Applicant will ensure that signage is in place to direct park users away from the events and to remaining available spaces in the Park.

The Applicant and the Council will ensure, as in previous years that the Park is cleaned throughout the duration of the events. The wider park area (outside of the event perimeter) is restored to 'normal' on the night of the event being dismantled. In doing this, the Council seeks to minimise the impact on park users and ensure that the Park is left in a safe condition for residents to enjoy.

The Applicant is required to comply with standard Equality Act requirements in order to prevent any discrimination based on this characteristic.

Positive		Negative	X	Neutral impact		Unknown Impact	
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**4. Disability**

The Council ensures that the majority of footpaths and carriageways in the Park are accessible for park users with disabilities.

Sections of the carriageway will be closed during the event days and set up days, as previously outlined. The remaining footpaths and carriageways will remain open in the Park.

Alternative routes will be made available and publicised to ensure access by park users is maintained. The Council will ensure that all routes allow access for those park users with disabilities. Throughout the duration of the events, stewards will be present in the wider park space and can offer assistance to park users with visual impairments, whose familiarity with the Park may be distorted by the events. In previous years, the Council has not received complaints from park users with visual impairments as a result of the proposed events. However, Council officers will ensure that immediate feedback on the event will be used to improve any actions seeking to support those park users with disabilities.

The Council will ensure that parking for Blue Badge holders is maintained and available throughout the duration of the events, including during the set up and dismantling phases.

By hosting the proposed events, the Council is able to use some of the revenue to support groups in the Park. For the last few years, Pedal Power, a cycling proficiency trainer aimed at young people with disabilities, has received over £40,000, allowing it to purchase new equipment and extend its activities.

The event promoters will be required to comply with standard Equality Act requirements in order to prevent any discrimination based on this characteristic.

Positive		Negative	X	Neutral impact		Unknown Impact	
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## 5. Race and ethnicity

The proposed events will attract a considerable number of attendees, from a range of ethnicities. The immediate wards surrounding the Park are already some of the most diverse communities in the country.

During previous events, the Council has used pictures and symbols in its signage to ensure that communication to park users is clear and inclusive of the diverse range of communities in the area.

The Applicant is required to comply with standard Equality Act requirements in order to prevent any discrimination based on this characteristic.

Positive		Negative		Neutral impact	X	Unknown Impact	
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## 6. Sexual orientation

We are not expecting any impact. The Applicant will be required to comply with standard Equality Act requirements in order to prevent any discrimination based on this characteristic.

Positive		Negative		Neutral impact		Unknown Impact	X
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## 7. Religion or belief (or no belief)

Under the Council's existing Outdoor Events Policy, a major event is not permitted in a Haringey park if it excludes entry on a religious basis. Therefore, any major event that takes place in Finsbury Park will allow attendees of any or no religion. The proposed events in this report will comply with this direction.

The Applicant is required to comply with standard Equality Act requirements in order to prevent any discrimination based on this characteristic.

Positive		Negative		Neutral impact	X	Unknown Impact	
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## 8. Pregnancy and maternity

We are not expecting any impact. All of the concerns regarding the impact on children who use the park are covered in point 3.

The Applicant is required to comply with standard Equality Act requirements in order to prevent any discrimination based on this characteristic.

Positive		Negative		Neutral impact	X	Unknown Impact	
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## 9. Marriage and Civil Partnership

The Applicant is required to comply with standard Equality Act requirements in order to prevent any discrimination based on this characteristic.

Positive		Negative		Neutral impact	X	Unknown Impact	
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## 10. Groups that cross two or more equality strands e.g. young black women

Women with young children:

We know that women are more likely to be carers to young children, and therefore the proposal is likely to impact disproportionately on this group. However, the impact is likely to be low because the Council and Applicant will take significant actions to mitigate the disruption caused to the Park. All of the Park's formal play and council managed sport facilities will be unaffected by the events, allowing women with young children to continue to use approximately 70/69% of the Park.

Positive		Negative	X	Neutral impact		Unknown Impact	
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**Outline the overall impact of the policy for the Public Sector Equality Duty:**

- Could the proposal result in any direct/indirect discrimination for any group that shares the protected characteristics?
- Will the proposal help to advance equality of opportunity between groups who share a protected characteristic and those who do not?

**This includes:**

- a) Remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons protected under the Equality Act
  - b) Take steps to meet the needs of persons protected under the Equality Act that are different from the needs of other groups
  - c) Encourage persons protected under the Equality Act to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low
- Will the proposal help to foster good relations between groups who share a protected characteristic and those who do not?

**Background to the major events proposals:**

The nature of any proposed event is considered and embedded in the application and planning process. The Council's Outdoor Events Policy also contains a list of events that would not be allowed to take place in a Haringey park. If an application does not fall within this immediate refusal, the individual event proposal is discussed between the Council and the Cabinet Member before any informal decision is made to progress the application.

**Terms and conditions of the events (including entry):**

The Applicant will ensure that entry to each of their events does not discriminate on the grounds of sex, gender reassignment, age, disability, race and ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, pregnancy and maternity, marital and civil partnership status. In previous years, the events have attracted a significant number of attendees, from a diverse range of backgrounds. The proposed events provide a significant opportunity to foster good relations between groups who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. Previous events in the Park have attracted a range of communities that share a common interest and come together during the events. In previous years, volunteers from Manor House Development Trust, Haringey Council and Hackney Council have been engaged as 'Haringey Hosts', providing information and support to attendees. In total, approximately 150 event hosts are engaged on each day of the events. Representatives from the event, the Council and the Metropolitan Police are in attendance throughout the events to ensure that any potential conflict arising between attendees is extinguished or minimised.

**Impact of the proposal and mitigating actions:**

In relation to the potential impact on park users and residents in the immediate area, the Council will take a number of steps to ensure any impact is minimised. It is acknowledged that children and young people are a particular group that use the Park and its facilities. The proposed events will occupy approximately 30/31% of the Park's space and will close parts of the carriageway. It is therefore accepted that the events will create a degree of disruption to those using the Park. However, the majority of park space (70/69%) will remain open to park users during event periods and the Council and the event promoters will take steps to ensure that appropriate signage directs park users to available park space and play equipment. The Council and the Applicant will ensure that signage is implemented in advance of the events and is communicated in a clear way.

The proposed events will not impact on parking availability in the park during the event periods as the Council will ensure that Blue Badge holders and recognised park stakeholder groups continue to be able to park during these periods.

Any noise disturbance attributed to the events is mitigated as the Council will ensure that the events finish at 22:30 (Fridays and Saturdays) and 21:30 on Sundays. This is deemed a reasonable adjustment to ensure that any noise associated with the event is minimised and stopped at an appropriate time.

All of Haringey's libraries will remain open during event periods, allowing young people and adults an alternative quiet space to study or work, if needed.

### **Benefits of the proposal:**

The proposed events raise significant revenue for the Council, which is not only spent managing, maintaining and improving the Park, but is shared with relevant groups who are based or operate in the Park. In previous years, groups have received money, resulting from the event, to support activities in the Park and improve the offer to park users. This has a positive impact on the overall quality of the Park's facilities for residents.

The events have also created considerable benefits to the community. In previous years, the Council and event organisers have ensured that:

- Local charities have access to the events to fundraise;
- Mind, a Haringey based mental health charity, attend all major events, fundraising approximately £15,000 in one year, attracting new volunteers and providing outreach to event attendees;
- Tickets are provided to local businesses to attend the events;
- Pedal Power, a group based in the park, are given tickets to auction off to support their finances;
- Pupils from Stroud Green School are given tours of the event areas during the build period;
- Adverts are displayed on the stage screens, promoting Furtherfield Gallery (which has also received financial donations from Festival Republic in the past);
- Funding of £1,500 was secured for a compostable toilet by Edible Landscapes;
- 'Haringey Goes Wild', Haringey young person's music extravaganza held within the event area showcasing Haringey and Hackney musical talent.

In addition, an Environmental Impact Fee is charged for all events. The larger the event, the higher the fee. This fee is set aside and distributed between community groups who

are based and operate in the Park. In 3 years alone, groups have received over £130k in funding, benefiting the local community.

These interventions have fostered good relations between the communities that use the Park and live in its immediate area. They have also sought to advance equality of opportunity between residents, providing funding for specific groups and charities that support groups who share a protected characteristic.

#### 6. a) What changes if any do you plan to make to your proposal as a result of the Equality Impact Assessment?

Further information on responding to identified impacts is contained within accompanying EqlA guidance

Outcome	Y/N
<b>No major change to the proposal:</b> the EqlA demonstrates the proposal is robust and there is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact. All opportunities to promote equality have been taken. <u>If you have found any inequalities or negative impacts that you are unable to mitigate, please provide a compelling reason below why you are unable to mitigate them.</u>	Y
<b>Adjust the proposal:</b> the EqlA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. Adjust the proposal to remove barriers or better promote equality. Clearly <u>set out below</u> the key adjustments you plan to make to the policy. If there are any adverse impacts you cannot mitigate, please provide a compelling reason below	N
<b>Stop and remove the proposal:</b> the proposal shows actual or potential avoidable adverse impacts on different protected characteristics. The decision maker must not make this decision.	N

#### 6 b) Summarise the specific actions you plan to take to remove or mitigate any actual or potential negative impact and to further the aims of the Equality Duty


Impact and which protected characteristics are impacted?	Action	Lead officer	Timescale
Age	Ensure all Council-managed facilities remain open in the Park.	Assistant Director Direct Services	Ongoing
	Ensure that finishing times as set out under the Premises Licences are adhered to.		Ongoing
Disability	Find alternative and suitable locations for user groups which may be displaced by the events.	Assistant Director Direct Services	Ongoing
			Ongoing

	<p>Ensure agreed thoroughfares are maintained within the Park at all times, and when those agreed are closed, find alternatives which all abilities can access.</p> <p>Ensure wayfinding maps and signage is placed in visible locations to help park users maintain access while events are taking place.</p>		Ongoing
Race & Ethnicity	Ensure wayfinding maps and signage is accessible for those who may not speak or read English, enabling them to access all facilities within the park.	Assistant Director Direct Services	Ongoing
<p><b>Please outline any areas you have identified where negative impacts will happen as a result of the proposal but it is not possible to mitigate them. Please provide a complete and honest justification on why it is not possible to mitigate them.</b></p>			
N/A			
<p><b>6 c) Summarise the measures you intend to put in place to monitor the equalities impact of the proposal as it is implemented:</b></p>			
<p>Event information and park access information is provided in the run-up to all major events taking place in the Park. This is placed on Haringey's website, with both Hackney and Islington Council's encouraged to share it with their residents. This will remain the case for events planned for 2022. This includes contact details for the relevant Council services, encouraging anyone with complaints to report them.</p> <p>Two weeks before the event build is due to start a letter is sent to approximately 20,000 households surrounding the Park (in all three boroughs) providing useful contact information.</p> <p>Once the Applicant is on site, they are required to maintain a residents' information phoneline, for anyone to report issues related to the event. Call details are shared with Council officers and appropriate action is taken.</p> <p>Stakeholders are encouraged to feedback on any issues that may arise at the time, and these are responded to by officers.</p>			

Council officers are present in the Park daily during the time of build, break and the event, monitoring the effects the event may be having on park users. This provides an opportunity for any direct feedback during the events. Feedback is thoroughly assessed to ensure improvements and mitigations can be made both at the time and for future events.

The Council monitors complaints that are received during the events to ensure that, where possible and appropriate, a different approach can be adopted for future events to further mitigate impact.

## 7. Authorisation

<p>EqlA approved by  (Mark Stevens) (Assistant Director/ Director)</p>	<p>Date 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021</p>
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## 8. Publication

*Please ensure the completed EqlA is published in accordance with the Council's policy.*

Please contact the Policy & Strategy Team for any feedback on the EqlA process.



By virtue of paragraph(s) 3, 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is exempt

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