

## NOTICE OF MEETING

# CABINET MEMBER SIGNING

Thursday, 19th March, 2026, 1.00 pm - Alexandra House, 10 Station Road, London, N22 (watch the live meeting [here](#))

Councillors: Emily Arkell

### 1. FILMING AT MEETINGS

Please note that this meeting may be filmed or recorded by the Council for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site or by anyone attending the meeting using any communication method. Although we ask members of the public recording, filming or reporting on the meeting not to include the public seating areas, members of the public attending the meeting should be aware that we cannot guarantee that they will not be filmed or recorded by others attending the meeting. Members of the public participating in the meeting (e.g. making depositions, asking questions, making oral protests) should be aware that they are likely to be filmed, recorded or reported on. By entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings.

The Chair of the meeting has the discretion to terminate or suspend filming or recording, if in his or her opinion continuation of the filming, recording or reporting would disrupt or prejudice the proceedings, infringe the rights of any individual or may lead to the breach of a legal obligation by the Council.

### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

### 3. 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

**4. URGENT BUSINESS**

The Chair will consider the admission of any late items of Urgent Business. (Late items of Urgent Business will be considered under the agenda item where they appear).

**5. DEPUTATIONS/ PETITIONS/ QUESTIONS**

**6. PARK HIRE APPLICATIONS BY LIVE NATION / FESTIVAL REPUBLIC LTD TO HIRE FINSBURY PARK FOR MULTI-EVENT WEEKENDS (PAGES 1 - 38)**

**7. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Item 8 is likely to be subject to a motion to exclude the press and public be 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.

**8. EXEMPT - PARK HIRE APPLICATIONS BY LIVE NATION / FESTIVAL REPUBLIC LTD TO HIRE FINSBURY PARK FOR MULTI-EVENT WEEKENDS (PAGES 39 - 40)**

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Thursday, 19 March 2026

**Report for:** Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure

**Item number:** 6

**Title:** Park hire applications by Live Nation / Festival Republic Ltd to hire Finsbury Park for multi-event weekends

**Report**

**Authorised by:** Barry Francis, Corporate Director of Environment and Resident Experience

**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 Ward

**Report for Key/**

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

**1. Describe the issue under consideration**

- 1.1 This report seeks a determination of a number of applications made by Festival Republic Ltd (the Applicant) to hire Finsbury Park for a period in June/July every year between 2028 and 2032, to stage two consecutive three-day multi-event weekends.
- 1.2 The Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure is being asked to take the decision in the report as required under the Outdoor Events Policy (the Policy), which was approved by Cabinet on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2013, and implemented on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2014.
- 1.3 The applications are required to be determined pursuant to the Council's Outdoor Events Policy.

**2. Cabinet Member Introduction**

Not applicable.

**3. Recommendations**

The Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure is recommended:

- i. To note, that no comments were received from recognised stakeholders of Finsbury Park in response to the event notifications being sent as part of the decision-making process.
- 3.1 Pursuant to Contract Standing Order (CSO) 0.08, to authorise the Corporate Director of Environment and Resident Experience to:
- i. To (1) 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 and (2) enter into contract to hire Finsbury Park to the Applicant (for the events detailed in this report as set out in paragraph 6.4) provided that the Corporate Director of Environment and Resident Experience is satisfied with the terms of any proposed agreements and permissions.

#### **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. It is considered that this decision is non-key because it is (a) not likely to result in the local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the local authority's budget for the service of function to which the decision relates; or (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the local authority.
- 4.2 With respect to (b) the impact of the proposed decision on communities is not considered to be significant because the area does not comprise an area of two or more wards. And whilst some Finsbury Park events sometimes receive strong local feeling from a selection of the community, there is active engagement and opportunity for stakeholders to feedback. Also, any impacts of the events are not significant and have no lasting effect given the short duration of the events during the year.
- 4.3 If authority is given, then officers will give in-principle agreement to the Applicant for the event applications to progress. The events will then be subject to lengthy discussions with relevant authorities - including Licensing and the Police - before final approval is given.
- 4.4 The rejection of the applications would have implications for the Parks & Climate Action 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 applications. 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 greenspace 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 2025, the Council received a number of applications from Festival Republic Ltd (the Applicant) to hire the Park to stage a three-day festival in July and a three-day weekend of multi-events to take place in June/July of each year between 2028 and 2032.
- 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 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 these applications, 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 (2015, 2018 & 2025), Liam Gallagher (2018) and Oasis (2002) have played to sell-out audiences.
- 6.9 Save for the impact of Covid-19 in 2020 and 2021, the Wireless Festival weekend has taken place in the Park every year since 2014 and celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025. In that time, nearly one and a half million people have enjoyed the event in Finsbury Park. Wireless usually takes place on the first weekend of July. However, on occasion, it has been hosted on the second weekend to avoid a clash with other events taking place in the local area.
- 6.10 In 2023 the Council considered and agreed to a long-term hire of Finsbury Park to the Applicant, securing annual hire until 2027. With this long-term agreement, a further mechanism of review was established to ensure that each season’s

event operation was scrutinised, and an annual improvement plan was agreed for implementation the following year.

- 6.11 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.
- 6.12 A second multi-event weekend has also taken place since 2015. In the past, this has included the Community Festival, and headline acts such as Queens of the Stone Age and Liam Gallagher, Jamie T, Pulp and The 1975.
- 6.13 The current proposal seeks to hire the Park to the Applicant to host two consecutive, three-day music festivals. By approving these applications, the disruption to the Park will be shorter than having two separate weekends of events with their own build and break periods.
- 6.14 This approach will reduce the income level received (compared to two separate events) but will allow the Park to generate sufficient income for its basic maintenance, enhanced staffing levels and a reasonable level of investment within the Park.
- 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 2025, 25% of these tickets were applied for by Haringey residents, 65% by Hackney residents and 10% 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 it 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 in each year which the application refers to.

- 6.20 In preparation of the events detailed within the applications, the Applicant has 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 June/July, to facilitate the placement of toilets. This has previously been agreed and facilitated during the 2022 events. This means that the tennis courts could be closed on event days, plus the day after to allow cleaning to take place, if agreement is reached.
- 6.21 The total area used for these two weekends of events equates to 31% of the Park (32% if the tennis courts are included). The remaining 69%/68% 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 travel through the Park north to south, east to west.
- 6.27 The main carriageway from the zebra crossing by the lakeside café, down to Finsbury Gate, may occasionally be closed during off-peak times to facilitate the on-going build of the event area. If this happens, pedestrians and cyclists will be re-routed using the path running in parallel with the tennis courts. This would not take place during peak times of the morning and evening rush hour – 5am-9am and 3pm-7pm. This closure has been agreed for previous events, however, was determined not to be needed. The Applicant has requested this flexibility is allowed for future events.
- 6.28 The decision to allow the potential 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 at 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 most 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 In 2024 and 2025 the path running between Stroud Green and Oxford Road Gates has been closed from 2pm on Wireless event days only. This was a joint decision made between the Police, Council and Festival Republic following anti-social behaviour taking place in the Park in 2023. Pedestrians and cyclists are diverted onto surrounding side roads. Access is maintained for those with tennis court bookings or wanting to use the skate bowl.
- 6.31 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.
- 6.32 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.
- 6.33 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.
- 6.34 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.
- 6.35 Since 2018 a music extravaganza, celebrating the musical talent of Haringey, Hackney and Islington young people, has been hosted on the smaller stage within the event area in the week between the two major event weekends. This is now an annual event, in addition to a second community music event FinsburyFest which has run annually since 2023 and showcases local talent.
- 6.36 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.
- 6.37 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.
- 6.38 The Live Nation Music (UK) Premises Licence which will regulate the multi-weekend events 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. Should an event take place on another weekday the music would also cease at 9:30pm.

- 6.39 It is accepted that, due to the high footfall experienced during events, some short-term damage to the grass will take place. In 2023 the Applicant introduced a new level of grounds protection (in addition to that in front of the main stage) around heavy footfall areas such as bars and toilets which offers both protections to wear but also in wetter weather.
- 6.40 A full programme of grass restoration is undertaken by the Park operatives once all event infrastructure is removed from site and weather conditions allow. As the proposed events take place within a contained 4-week period, this will ensure that the grass has a much longer recovery period.

### **Consultation Exercise**

- 6.41 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 Environment and the members of the Haringey Safety Advisory Group. Other consultees may be added where appropriate to the specific park or open space”*.
- 6.42 In discharging the requirement to consult, officers sent details of the applications to 38 external stakeholder groups by e-mail dated 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026. 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.
- 6.43 Of the list of consultees, set out at Appendix 1 none provided any form of response to the event notifications.

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

- 7.1 Hosting large and major events within the borough’s parks 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 in relation to the Borough Vision 2035 and specifically to the second call to action Thriving Place. The Thriving Place call to action will be supported by providing shared opportunities to come together to celebrate world class musical acts performing locally within the borough. It will support the maximisation of our existing assets, creatively share spaces and further promote and secure finances for our greenspaces that help to support the outcomes for residents.

7.3 In addition this decision supports the Corporate Delivery Plan and contributes to the identified outcomes for a Culturally rich borough the decisions within the report will support progress towards:

- A thriving arts and culture sector supported by the Council's collaborative approach.
- Promoting an ambitious culture programme for Haringey
- An engaged and inclusive approach to cultural participation
- A cultural infrastructure to be proud of.

7.4 The future income secured as part of this decision will help to support the Parks Service and the Council's overall financial position as part of its Medium-Term Financial Strategy.

## **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 Leader coming to a settled view.

8.4 None of the 38 recognised stakeholders have raised any objections to the events being proposed for 2028-2032 inclusive.

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

### **9.1 Finance**

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

### **9.2 Legal**

9.2.1 The Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) 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 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 Festival 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 Pursuant to the Council’s Contract Standing Order (CSO) 0.08, a decision reserved for Cabinet may be taken by a Cabinet Member with the agreement of the Leader and as such the recommendation in paragraph 3 of the report requesting approval from the Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure is in line with the Council’s CSO so long as the Cabinet Member is taking the decision with the agreement of the Leader.
- 9.2.10 Further to paragraph 9.2.9 above and pursuant to the provisions of the Council’s CSO 2.01(c) and CSO 0.08, the recommendations in paragraph 3.2(ii) of the report is in line with the Council’s CSO.

9.2.11 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 Leader in the decision-making process. In adopting that approach, the Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) sees no legal reasons why the Cabinet Member could not approve the recommendations in this report.

### **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.

Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.

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 Outdoor 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 Event applications and can be found in Appendix 2. 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. For example all play and council managed sports facilities will remain open throughout the entire hire period. This is to mitigate the potential impact on women with young children.
- 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. In person residents meetings are held for each of the three boroughs on the Saturday and Sunday of each weekend to hear concerns and amend arrangements (where possible) in real time.

## **10. Use of Appendices**

- 10.1 Appendix 1 – List of Finsbury Park stakeholders who were consulted
- 10.2 Appendix 2 – 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 each year from 2028 to 2032
- 10.3 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>

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## Appendix 1:

## List of Finsbury Park stakeholders who were consulted

<b>Recognised stakeholder consultation</b>		
As set out in the Outdoor Events Policy, stakeholders were emailed on 13 January 2026 with details of the Festival Republic's park hire applications received for Finsbury Park 2028-2032.		
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.		
<b>External stakeholders</b>	<b>Internal council colleagues</b>	<b>Statutory bodies</b>
Access to Sport	Cabinet Member for Culture, Communities and Leisure	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 Café	Parking Services	
Finsbury Park Sports Partnership	Veolia	
Finsbury Park Trust		
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 Café		
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)		
Brownswood Ward Members x 2 (LB Hackney)		
Finsbury Park Ward Members x 3 (LB Islington)		

Highbury West Ward Members x 3 (LB Islington)		
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## Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)

The Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) form is a template for analysing a policy or proposed decision for its potential effects on individuals with protected characteristics covered by the Equality Act 2010.

The council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share 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 apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.

Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.

### 1. Responsibility for the Equality Impact Assessment

**Name of proposal:**

Park hire applications by Live Nation / Festival Republic Ltd to hire Finsbury Park for multi-event weekends

**Service Area:**

**Parks & Leisure Services**

**Officer Completing Assessment:**

**Sarah Jones, Events & Partnerships Manager**

**Equalities Advisor:**

**Yasmin Jama:** Policy, Equalities and Participation Team

**Cabinet meeting date (if applicable):**

**Cabinet Member decision 19 March 2026**

**Corporate Director/ Director**

**Zoe Robertson – Programme Director**

## 2. Executive summary

Please complete this section *after* completing the rest of the form and summarise:

- **The policy proposal, its aims and objectives, the decision in consideration. Please focus on the change that will result from this decision.**
- **Results of the analysis: potential positive and negative equality impacts**
- **Mitigations that will be taken to minimise negative equality impacts (if relevant)**
- **Next steps (this may include: if/when the EQIA will be refreshed, planned consultation, future stages of the project).**

The Council has received park hire applications from Festival Republic Ltd to hire part of Finsbury Park to stage a three-day festival in July and a three-day weekend of multi-events to take place in June/July each year between 2028 and 2032.

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 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.

The Applicant has approached the community-led sports charity, Access to Sport, with a view to hiring the tennis courts in the Park, over the consecutive major weekends to facilitate the placement of toilets. This arrangement was previously in place for the 2022 events.

The total area used for these two weekends of events equates to 31% of the Park (32% if the tennis courts are included). The remaining 69%/68% of the Park, and all other facilities, remain open to the public at all times.

Whilst located in Haringey, Finsbury Park sits on the borders of 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 six adjoining wards including Hackney and Islington and all park user groups and leaseholders.

An EqIA 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 EqIA's 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 every year from 2028 until 2032. 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 Outdoor Events Policy, adopted by the Council in 2014, details the approval process for determining applications. The Policy requires that, where event applications are submitted, prior authority should be given by the Cabinet Member, as a non-key decision. The criteria for major events requiring Cabinet Member approval includes:

- *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.*

If authority is given, officers will give in-principle agreement to the Applicant for the event application to progress. The event will then be subject to discussions between the Applicant, the Safety Advisory Group and Council officers before final agreement is given. This is agreed through Delegated Authority, given by the Director of Environment and Resident Experience.

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.

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*”.

Users of Finsbury Park come from all ages, backgrounds and abilities. The park holds a wide range of facilities and recreational activities, 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 events. We also know that these impacts affect children, women and people with disabilities, who are vulnerable to due to their protected characteristic. This assessment addresses the Council and event organiser’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.

## **3. Consultation and engagement**

3a. 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? Detail how your approach will facilitate the inclusion of protected groups likely to be impacted by the decision.

The Council's 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 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 major events. This group is chaired by the Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure.

In discharging the requirement to consult, officers sent details of the applications to 38 external stakeholder groups by e-mail dated 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026. The Council requests that all responses are submitted within ten working days. A previous judicial review found this was an acceptable timeframe.

### **3b. 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**

Of the stakeholders contacted, none provided any form of response to the event notifications.

Previous comments however, can be summarised in the main as being concerns around: loss of the park area; safety concerns; loss of oversight; size and number of events; benefits to local area; hire fees; funding and income; disruption to activities; contract; management plan; inclusivity of shared spaces; loss of scrutiny of event planning; anti-social behaviour; effects of studying children; park biodiversity; five-year hire; outdoor events policy.

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 use the forum to discuss potential impacts on all three boroughs.

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.

Parking restrictions are implemented in the park during the large and major event periods. 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.

All event attendees are encouraged to travel to and from the events by public transport.

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 and 2022. Further improvements were introduced in 2024 and 2025 in line with the recommendations of the Police to further design out opportunities for anti-social behaviour. 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.

## 4. Data and Impact Analysis

Note: officers may want to complement their analysis with data from the State of the Borough and ward profiles, found here: <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/local-democracy/about-council/state-of-the-borough>.

**Please consider how the proposed change will affect people with protected characteristics.**

### 4a. Age

#### Data

	<b>Harringay</b>	Haringey	London
0 – 14	13.1%	17.1%	19.2%
15 – 64	78.5%	72.4%	68.8%
65+	8.4%	10.4%	11.9%

	<b>Stroud Green</b>	Haringey	London
0 – 14	17.3%	17.1%	19.2%
15 – 64	63.7%	72.4%	68.8%
65+	18.4%	10.4%	11.9%

	<b>Brownswood</b>	Hackney	London
0 – 14	13.9%	18%	19.2%
15 – 64	78.6%	74%	68.8%
65+	7.4%	7.9%	11.9%

	<b>Finsbury Park</b>	Islington	London
0 – 14	14.9%	14.4%	19.2%
15 – 64	77.1%	76.2%	68.8%
65+	8%	9.4%	11.9%

**What data sources will you use to inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on people under this protected characteristic? Census 2021**

**Detail the findings of the data.**

- a) Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by the proposal due to overrepresentation? How does this compare with the wider demographic profile of the Borough?**
- b) Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by this proposal as a result of a need related to their protected characteristic?**

Ward profile data for Stroud Green, Haringay, Brownswood and Finsbury Park shows that, on average, 14.88% of the local population is aged between 0 – 14, which is lower than the London average of 19.2%.

Many of the play facilities within the Park are aimed at children under the age of 14. 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.

In terms of other age groups using the park the main impact to normal use is that some areas of the park will be unavailable for the duration of the events. This may mean if they wish to continue using the park that they use a different area of the park. Circa 70% of the park remains available to all other users.

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.

### **Potential Impacts**

- **Consider whether the proposed policy/decision will have positive, neutral, or negative impacts (including but not limited to health impacts).**

**Neutral Impact** - 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 31% of the Park (32% if the tennis courts are included) leaving 69/70% 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.

## 4b. Disability<sup>1</sup>

### Data

#### Borough Profile <sup>2</sup>

4,500 people have a serious physical disability in Haringey.

19,500 aged 16-64 have a physical disability this equates to approximately 10% of the population aged 16-64.

1,090 people living with a learning disability in Haringey.

4,400 people have been diagnosed with severe mental illness in Haringey.

#### Target Population Profile

Disabled under the Equality Act	Haringey	Hackney	Islington	London	England and Wales
Day-to-day activity limited a lot	7.9%	9.6%	10.0%	5.7%	7.3%
Day-to-day activity limited a little	8.7%	9.6%	10.4%	7.5%	10.0%
Not disabled	83.4%	80.8%	79.6%	86.7%	82.7%

**What data sources will you use to inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on people under this protected characteristic?** Census 2021

**Detail the findings of the data.**

- a) **Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by the proposal due to overrepresentation? How does this compare with the wider demographic profile of the Borough?**
- b) **Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by this proposal by dint of a need related to their protected characteristic?**

Haringey has nearly double the proportion of people where day-to-day activity is limited to some extent as London, but slightly 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.

<sup>1</sup> In the Equality Act a disability means a physical or a mental condition which has a substantial and long-term impact on your ability to do normal day to day activities.

<sup>2</sup> Source: 2021 Census

On event days and the day after 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 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 on the track 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 has paid 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 £50,000 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 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.

### **Potential Impacts**

- **Consider whether the proposed policy/decision will have positive, neutral, or negative impacts (including but not limited to health impacts).**

**Negative Impact** - 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 the day after to allow for cleaning, 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 £50,000, 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.

#### 4c. Gender Reassignment<sup>3</sup>

##### Data

##### Borough Profile

1.24% of Haringey's population gender identity is different as the sex registered at birth. Equating to 3275 of Haringey residents identifying as being Trans.<sup>4</sup>

##### Target Population Profile

Gender Identity	Haringey	Hackney	Islington	London	England and Wales
Gender identity the same as sex registered at birth	89.43%	89.28%	91.60%	91.2%	93.5%
Gender identity different as sex registered at birth	1.24%	1.07%	0.95%	0.9%	0.5%
Not Answered	9.32%	9.65%	7.46%	7.9%	6.0%

#### What data sources will you use to inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on people under this protected characteristic? Census 2021

<sup>3</sup> Under the legal definition, a transgender person has the protected characteristic of gender reassignment if they are undergoing, have undergone, or are proposing to undergo gender reassignment. To be protected from gender reassignment discrimination, an individual does not need to have undergone any specific treatment or surgery to change from one's birth sex to one's preferred gender. This is because changing one's physiological or other gender attributes is a personal process rather than a medical one.

<sup>4</sup> Trans is an umbrella term to describe people whose gender is not the same as, or does not sit comfortably with, the sex they were assigned at birth.

### Detail the findings of the data.

- a) **Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by the proposal due to overrepresentation? How does this compare with the wider demographic profile of the Borough?**
- b) **Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by this proposal by dint of a need related to their protected characteristic?**

The 2021 Census for the first time collect data on people's Gender Identity. It showed that 1.24% of Haringey's population gender identity (including Trans men, Trans women, non-binary and other) is different as the sex registered at birth, which is the highest in the tri-borough area.

It is anticipated that this event application will not have a disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic. The events proposed in this application does not discriminate entry on the grounds of sex, which aligns with the Council's Outdoor Events Policy.

### Potential Impacts

- **Consider whether the proposed policy/decision will have positive, neutral, or negative impacts (including but not limited to health impacts).**

**Neutral Impact** - It is anticipated that the major event applications will not have a disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic. All the events proposed in this application do not discriminate entry on the grounds of sex or gender identity, which aligns with the Council's Outdoor Events Policy.

## 4d. Marriage and Civil Partnership

### Data

#### Borough Profile <sup>5</sup>

28% married or in civil partnership

#### Target Population Profile

	Married or in civil partnership
Haringay (LB Haringey)	29.8%
Stroud Green (LB Haringey)	30%
Haringey	33.7%
Brownswood (LB Hackney)	25.4%
Hackney	27.2%
Finsbury Park (LB Islington)	
Islington	25.8%
London	40%
England & Wales	44.7%

<sup>5</sup> Source: 2021 Census

**What data sources will you use to inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on people under this protected characteristic? Census 2021**

**Detail the findings of the data.**

- a) **Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by the proposal due to overrepresentation? How does this compare with the wider demographic profile of the Borough?**
- b) **Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by this proposal by dint of a need related to their protected characteristic?**

The number of married people and those in a civil partnership is significantly lower than in London and England.

### **Potential Impacts**

- **Consider whether the proposed policy/decision will have positive, neutral, or negative impacts (including but not limited to health impacts).**

**Neutral Impact** - It is anticipated that this event application will not have a disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic. The Applicant is required to comply with standard Equality Act requirements in order to prevent any discrimination based on this characteristic.

## **4e. Pregnancy and Maternity**

### **Data**

#### **Borough Profile <sup>6</sup>**

Live Births in Haringey 2019: 3,646

#### **Target Population Profile**

	Proportion of 0-4 year olds
Haringay (LB Haringey)	5.2%
Stroud Green (LB Haringey)	5.4%
Haringey	5.7%
Brownswood (LB Hackney)	5.6%
Hackney	6.2%
Finsbury Park (LB Islington)	5%
Islington	5.2%
London	6%
England & Wales	5.4%

**What data sources will you use to inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on people under this protected characteristic? Census 2021**

**Detail the findings of the data.**

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<sup>6</sup> Births by Borough (ONS)

- a) **Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by the proposal due to overrepresentation? How does this compare with the wider demographic profile of the Borough?**
- b) **Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by this proposal by dint of a need related to their protected characteristic?**

Haringey has a lower proportion compared to both the London and England / Wales.

### **Potential Impacts**

- **Consider whether the proposed policy/decision will have positive, neutral, or negative impacts (including but not limited to health impacts).**

**Negative Impact** - Please see sections in relation to sex and age. Women with children under six-months old are likely to be impacted by closure of the carriageway. Mitigating actions will be taken, as outlined above, to address this.

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

## **4f. Race**

In the Equality Act 2010, race can mean ethnic or national origins, which may or may not be the same as a person's current nationality.<sup>7</sup>

### **Data**

#### **Borough Profile <sup>8</sup>**

Arab: **1.0%**

Any other ethnic group: 8.7%

Asian: **8.7%**

Bangladeshi: 1.8%

Chinese: 1.5%

Indian: 2.2%

Pakistani: 0.8%

Other Asian: 2.4%

Black: **17.6%**

African: 9.4%

Caribbean: 6.2%

Other Black: 2.0%

Mixed: **7.1%**

White and Asian: 1.5%

<sup>7</sup> [Race discrimination | Equality and Human Rights Commission \(equalityhumanrights.com\)](https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/anti-discrimination-law/race-discrimination)

<sup>8</sup> Source: 2021 Census

White and Black African: 1.0%  
 White and Black Caribbean: 2.0%  
 Other Mixed: 2.6%

**White: 57.1% in total**

English/Welsh/Scottish/Norther Irish/British: 31.9%  
 Irish: 2.2%  
 Gypsy or Irish Traveller: 0.1%  
 White Roma: 0.8%  
 Other White: 22.1%

**Target Population Profile**

	Black and Minority Ethnic
Haringay (LB Haringey)	34.7%
Stroud Green (LB Haringey)	28.7%
Haringey	53%
Brownswood (LB Hackney)	39%
Hackney	56.9%
Finsbury Park (LB Islington)	49.9%
Islington	37.8%
London	46.2%
England	19.0%

**What data sources will you use to inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on people under this protected characteristic? Census 2021**

**Detail the findings of the data.**

- a) Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by the proposal due to overrepresentation? How does this compare with the wider demographic profile of the Borough?**
- b) Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by this proposal by dint of a need related to their protected characteristic?**

The data shows us that the proportion of residents who are from ethnic minority backgrounds in the wards immediately surrounding Finsbury Park is comparable to the London average. The proportion of people from ethnic minority backgrounds 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.

**Potential Impacts**

- Consider whether the proposed policy/decision will have positive, neutral, or negative impacts (including but not limited to health impacts).**

**Neutral Impact** - 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, to improve accessibility for all visitors to the park, including those whose first language is not English 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.

## 4g. Religion or belief

### Data

#### Borough Profile <sup>9</sup>

Christian: 39.3%

Buddhist: 0.9%

Hindu: 1.3%

Jewish: 3.6%

Muslim: 12.6%

No religion: 31.6%

Other religion: 2.3%

Religion not stated: 8%

Sikh: 0.3%

#### Target Population Profile

	Harringay (LB Haringey)	Stroud Green (LB Haringey)	Brownswood (LB Hackney)	Finsbury Park (LB Islington)	London	England & Wales
Christian	36.1%	30.2%	28.5%	32.1%	40.7%	46.3%
Buddhist	1.1%	0.7%	1.1%	0.9%	0.9%	0.5%
Hindu	1.8%	0.6%	0.9%	0.6%	5.1%	1.8%
Jewish	1.0 %	1.9%	2.7%	0.7%	1.7%	0.5%
Muslim	11.1%	6.8%	10.5%	21.1%	15.0%	6.7%
Sikh	0.2%	0.2%	0.8%	0.2%	1.6%	0.9%
Other religion	1.4%	0.9%	2.4%	1.5%	1.0%	0.6%
No religion	39.9%	50.8%	45.1%	34.6%	27.1%	36.7%
Religion not stated	7.4%	6.9%	8%	8.3%	7.0%	6%

**What data will you use to inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on people under this protected characteristic? Census 2021**

**Detail the findings of the data.**

<sup>9</sup> Source: 2021 Census

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.

### Potential Impacts

- Consider whether the proposed policy/decision will have positive, neutral, or negative impacts (including but not limited to health impacts).

**Neutral Impact** - 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.

## 4h. Sex

### Data

#### Borough profile <sup>10</sup>

Females: (51.8%)

Males: (48.2%)

### Target Population Profile

	Female	Male
Harringay (LB Haringey)	50.3%	49.7%
Stroud Green (LB Haringey)	52.7%	47.3%
Haringey	51.8%	48.2%
Brownswood (LB Hackney)	52.4%	47.6%
Hackney	52.2%	47.8%
Finsbury Park (LB Islington)	52.5%	47.5%
Islington	52.3%	47.7%
London	51.5%	48.5%
England	51%	49%

**What data sources will you use to inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on people under this protected characteristic?** Census 2021

**Detail the findings of the data.**

- Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by the proposal due to overrepresentation? How does this compare with the wider demographic profile of the Borough?**
- Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by this proposal by dint of a need related to their protected characteristic?**

<sup>10</sup> Source: 2021 Census

As in common with national and regional trends, there are slightly more females than males within the individual wards surrounding the Park.

### Potential Impacts

- **Consider whether the proposed policy/decision will have positive, neutral, or negative impacts (including but not limited to health impacts).**

**Negative Impact** - 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.

**Neutral Impact** – the makeup of those attending the event is very dependent on the acts performing on anyone day. However, on leaving the event at night there is a significant stewarding, security and police presence which is supervised throughout the egress until all those wishing to leave the area have done so via various transport routes. Some male and female attendees will remain in the area outside of the park, but into the early hours of the morning there remains a heightened police presence above normal weekend levels.

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

## 4i. Sexual Orientation

### Data

#### Borough profile <sup>11</sup>

5.63% of London residents aged 16 or over identified themselves as lesbian, gay or bisexual in 2013. Haringey has the 17<sup>th</sup> largest LGB+ Community in England and Wales.

#### Target Population Profile

Sexual Orientation	Haringey	Hackney	Islington	London	England and Wales
Straight or Heterosexual	83.38%	79.58%	82.34%	86.2%	89.4%
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Other (LGB+)	5.63%	7.82%	8.01%	4.3%	3.1%
Not Answered	10.99%	12.60%	9.65%	9.5%	7.5%

**What data sources will you use to inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on people under this protected characteristic? Census 2021**

<sup>11</sup> Source: ONS Integrated Household Survey

### Detail the findings of the data.

- a) **Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by the proposal due to overrepresentation? How does this compare with the wider demographic profile of the Borough?**
- b) **Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by this proposal by dint of a need related to their protected characteristic?**

The 2021 Census collected data for the first time on people's sexual orientation. It showed that 5.36% of Haringey's population identifies as LGB+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and other) which is the 17<sup>th</sup> largest LGB+ community in the country. Whereas Islington and Hackney have the 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> largest LGB+ communities in the country.

### Potential Impacts

- **Consider whether the proposed policy/decision will have positive, neutral, or negative impacts (including but not limited to health impacts).**

**Neutral Impact** - It is anticipated that this event application will not have a disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic. The events proposed in this application does not discriminate entry on the grounds of sex, which aligns with the Council's Outdoor Events Policy.

## 4j. Socioeconomic Status (local)

### Data

#### Borough profile

#### Income

8.3% of the population in Haringey were claiming unemployment benefit on 9 December 2021.<sup>12</sup>

20.8% of the population in Haringey were claiming Universal Credit on 9 December 2021.<sup>13</sup>

29% of employee jobs in the borough are paid less than the London Living Wage.<sup>14</sup>

#### Educational Attainment

While Haringey's proportion of students attaining grade 5 or above in English and Mathematics GCSEs is higher than the national average, it is below the London average.<sup>15</sup>

4.4% of Haringey's working age populations had no qualifications in 2020.<sup>16</sup> 4.8% were qualified to level one only.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>12</sup> [ONS Claimant Count](#)

<sup>13</sup> [LG Inform](#)

<sup>14</sup> ONS

<sup>15</sup> Source: Annual Population Survey 2019 (via nomis)

<sup>16</sup> [LG Inform - qualifications](#)

<sup>17</sup> [LG Inform – level one](#)

## Area Deprivation

Haringey is the 4th most deprived in London as measured by the IMD score 2019. The most deprived LSOAs (Lower Super Output Areas or small neighbourhood areas) are more heavily concentrated in the east of the borough where more than half of the LSOAs fall into the 20% most deprived in the country.<sup>18</sup>

## Target Population Profile

**[If known, enter the profile of your target population].**

What data sources will you use to inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on people under this protected characteristic?

**[Detail the key data sources (quantitative and qualitative)]**

**Detail the findings of the data.**

- a) **Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by the proposal due to overrepresentation? How does this compare with the wider demographic profile of the Borough?**
- b) **Might members of this group be disproportionately affected by this proposal by dint of a need related to their protected characteristic?**

It can be construed that those who fall within this protected characteristic are more likely to live in accommodation with limited or no outdoor space, so rely on public outdoor space such as the Park to get fresh air and exercise.

## Potential Impacts

- Consider whether the proposed policy/decision will have positive, neutral, or negative impacts (including but not limited to health impacts).

**Neutral Impact** - It is anticipated that this event application will not have a disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic. The event proposed will take up 31/32% of the Park area, leaving the remaining 69/68% and all facilities within it, open to the general public to use and enjoy.

## 5. Key Impacts Summary

### 5a. Outline the key findings of your data analysis.

Overall the data suggests that although some protected groups may be impacted by the proposed event, there are mitigations that can be put in place to limit these.

### 5b. Intersectionality

- **Many proposals will predominantly impact individuals who have more than one protected characteristic, thereby transforming the impact of the decision.**

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<sup>18</sup> [State of the Borough](#) (p.21)

- **This section is about applying a systemic analysis to the impact of the decision and ensuring protected characteristics are not considered in isolation from the individuals who embody them. Please consider if there is an impact on one or more of the protected groups? Who are the groups and what is the impact?**

### **All groups with protected characteristics**

Hosting a major event in the park for 45000 will cause a level of disruption for all residents living near to the park. That disruption is no greater or less because of their protected characteristics given that the whole park is not closed and the vast majority (circa 70%) remains open for them to use in the normal way, as many 1000's of people do throughout each event weekend. Also within a short distance of the park there are many alternative parks and greenspaces that could be visited instead of visiting Finsbury Park.

### **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 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 69/68% of the Park. However, it is accepted that the some of the play experience will be impacted due to the surrounding event fence line and presence of stewards within the play areas.

### **5c. Data Gaps**

Based on your data are there any relevant groups who have not yet been consulted or engaged? Please explain how you will address this

n/a

## **6. Overall impact of the policy for the Public Sector Equality Duty**

Summarise the key implications of the decision for people with protected characteristics.

In your answer, please consider the following three questions:

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

- Will the proposal help to foster good relations between groups who share a relevant 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.

## **7. Amendments and mitigations**

### **7a. What changes, if any, do you plan to make to your proposal because of the Equality Impact Assessment?**

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

Please delete Y/N as applicable

**No major change to the proposal:** the EQIA demonstrates the proposal is robust and there is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact. All opportunities to promote equality have been taken. 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 **Y**

### **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 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 event will occupy approximately 31/32% of the park's space and will close a section of the internal carriageway. It is therefore accepted that the events will create some disruption to the park.

However, most of the park space (69/68%) will remain open to park users during the event period and the Council and the event promoters will take steps to ensure that any appropriate signage that is needed directs park users to available park space and play equipment.

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

### **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 £150k 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.

**Adjust the proposal:** the EQIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. Adjust the proposal to remove barriers or better promote equality. Clearly set out below 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**

**Stop and remove the proposal:** the proposal shows actual or potential avoidable adverse impacts on different protected characteristics. The decision maker must not make this decision. **N**

**7b. What specific actions do you plan to take to remove or mitigate any actual or potential negative impact and to further the aims of the Equality Duty?**

Action:

**Age:** Ensure all Council-managed facilities remain open in the Park. Ensure that finishing times as set out under the Premises Licences are adhered to.

**Disability:** Find alternative and suitable locations for user groups which may be displaced by the events. Ensure agreed thoroughfares are maintained within the Park at all times, and when those agreed are closed, find alternatives which all abilities can access. Ensure wayfinding maps and signage is placed in visible locations to help park users maintain access while events are taking place.

**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.

**Lead officer:** Sarah Jones, Events & Partnerships Manager

**Timescale:** During build of event, while event is ongoing, and during break of event infrastructure

Please outline any areas you have identified where negative impacts will happen because 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 the:

**N/A**

## 7. Ongoing monitoring

Summarise the measures you intend to put in place to monitor the equalities impact of the proposal as it is implemented.

- Who will be responsible for the monitoring?
- What the type of data needed is and how often it will be analysed.
- When the policy will be reviewed and what evidence could trigger an early revision
- How to continue to involve relevant groups and communities in the implementation and monitoring of the policy?

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 the future. This includes contact details for the relevant Council services, encouraging anyone with complaints to report them.

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.

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.

Stakeholders are encouraged to feedback on any issues that may arise at the time, and these are responded to by officers.

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.

In person residents meetings are held for each of the three boroughs on the Saturday and Sunday of each weekend to hear concerns and amend arrangements (where possible) in real time.

#### **Date of EQIA monitoring review:**

March 2029

### **8. Authorisation**

#### **EQIA approved by (Director)**

Zoe Robertson – Programme Director Wellbeing and Climate

#### **Date**

10<sup>th</sup> March 2026

### **9. Publication**

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

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

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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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