

Finsbury Park Events Scrutiny Project – Conclusions and recommendations of Overview and Scrutiny Committee, responses and updates to recommendations

Overall comments on the report				
The Council welcome this report as a positive contribution to addressing the needs of the local community while major events are held in Finsbury park. The programme of major events for the summer of 2018 is currently being devised and the actions taken in view of the recommendations made by the Committee will positively contribute to the running of those events.				
	Recommendation	Response (Agreed / Not agreed / Partially agreed)	Who and when	Update – Current Progress, March 2018
1	The Cabinet Member for Environment is recommended to work with the Council's Communications Team to develop a communication plan providing stakeholders, in Haringey, Hackney and Islington, with greater transparency about how income from events held in Finsbury Park is used. This should include circulating information at the end of September, the end of event season*, to:	1) Agreed We recognise that there is scope for improving communication regarding the positive outcomes of major events, especially across borough boundaries and welcome this recommendation. It is proposed that an annual report is produced.	Cabinet Member for Environment and Head of Commissioning and Client Reviewed annually	A communications plan is developed annually with focus on how event information is communicated to residents, businesses and stakeholders. In March 2018 a newsletter will be distributed to approximately 13,000 residents and businesses around Finsbury Park. This will be the third leaflet distributed since 2016 updating residents on the benefits that events bring to Finsbury Park and the borough.
(a)	Confirm how much money is generated from events held in Finsbury Park;	a) Agreed		The leaflet details how the Environmental Impact fee, collected from event organisers, has been distributed to various voluntary and charitable organisations in the park. For example, Pedal Power, a disability cycling
(b)	Make clear that all income from events is ring fenced back to the parks budget;	b) Agreed		

<p>(c)</p> <p>(d)</p>	<p>Identify how local residents, businesses and ward councillors can contribute to decisions on how income from events is spent, including work in other local parks;</p> <p>Provide information on how money from previous years has been spent, including updates on projects and improvements.</p> <p>(*In view of the timing of this scrutiny report, for 2015, it is recommended that this information is shared with local stakeholders as quickly as possible.)</p>	<p>c) At this point in the year we would be seeking priorities for spend against the following year's income. Will be seeking expressions with (annual report)</p> <p>d)Agreed</p>		<p>organisation has received a grant to fund the purchase of specialist bikes.</p> <p>Further information is also detailed around the planned events for the year</p> <p>This will continue to be distributed annually, in March, as a way of updating local residents on events.</p>
`	<p>The Head of Direct Services is recommended to develop a Frequently Asked Questions document for Finsbury Park Events. This should be made available online via the Council's website http://www.haringey.gov.uk/finsbury-park by the end of December 2015 with consideration given to how this information could be used to develop the communication plan (recommendation 1 above).</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>As above this is a welcome recommendation to improve all aspects of communication around major events.</p>	<p>Head of Commissioning and Client</p> <p>Reviewed annually</p>	<p>Event FAQs are now available on the council's website – www.haringey.gov.uk/finsburyparkevents</p> <p>These are reviewed and updated in March and October each year.</p>
3	<p>To help manage the competing needs and options of different stakeholders, including those from neighbouring boroughs, the Cabinet Member for Environment is recommended to review the terms of reference for the Finsbury Park Events Stakeholder Group. This should be completed before the end of December 2015 with consideration given to:</p>	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Environment and Head of Commissioning and Client</p> <p>Reviewed annually</p>	<p>The Terms of Reference for both groups was developed in 2015.</p> <p>The stakeholder group for residents and local user groups is chaired by a Councillor and the Terms of Reference is reviewed regularly.</p>

<p>(a)</p> <p>(b)</p> <p>(c)</p>	<p>Setting up two distinct groups – one for local residents and one for local business – to ensure feedback from both is used to help with event planning and to address local concerns around major events.</p> <p>A ward councillor from Haringay or Stroud Green being nominated as the Chair.</p> <p>Ensuring fair representation from all the groups participating.</p>			<p>The stakeholder group for businesses is now amalgamated with the stakeholder group for residents and local user groups and this format is working well.</p> <p>Membership of the Stakeholder group is representative of all three boroughs.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>To ensure local stakeholders, including ward councillors and residents, in Haringey, Hackney and Islington, are aware of all the events that take place in Finsbury Park, the majority being community or charity based, the Head of Direct Services is recommended to work with the Assistant Director of Communications, to review how information about future events is shared electronically or otherwise) to ensure greater awareness of all events.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>This recommendation is supported and a full 12 month Communication Plan is being developed.</p> <p>This will go live in January each year with regular updates across a variety of media channels.</p>	<p>Events & Partnerships Manager</p> <p>Reviewed annually</p>	<p>This is detailed in the Communications Plan.</p> <p>Residents and stakeholders are communicated with in a variety of ways. Including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual newsletter • Social media • Council webpage • A letter to 20,000 households across the 3 boroughs prior to major events. There will be 4 letters in 2018 • Stakeholder emails • Stakeholder meetings • Park signage
<p>5</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes the Council's commitment to review the way in which noise at Finsbury Park is monitored. It is recommended that the independent</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>A public document will be published on the Council's</p>	<p>Licensing Team Leader</p> <p>Reviewed annually</p>	<p>Noise monitoring of major events, by the independent acoustic consultant occurred in 2015.</p>

	<p>acoustic consultant's findings and any action to be taken by the Council as a result, be made available to all stakeholders, before the end of December 2015, to make the monitoring process more transparent and better understood.</p>	<p>website with recommendations.</p> <p>The full publication of this will be detailed in the Communications Plan.</p>		<p>Subsequently the organiser engages their own noise consultant to monitor noise and the Council's noise team also monitor noise levels and the organisers noise monitoring and response.</p> <p>The review undertaken in 2015 did not yield any significant matters that the Councils existing noise management plan did not already cover. The report mentioned reducing the number of monitoring points on Seven Sisters Road but given the importance of noise monitoring in this area, noise monitoring points along Seven Sisters Road have remained as per 2015</p> <p>FAQs regarding the way noise is monitored have been developed and are currently on the Council's website.</p>
6	<p>Moving forward, it is recommended that as part of the process for developing an Event Management Plan further consideration should be given, by the various agencies and event promoters, to the location and design of speakers and stages to help minimise noise disturbance.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Will be included as part of the Safety Advisory Group discussions.</p>	<p>Licensing Team Leader</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>This is ongoing and will be a matter of discussion at the individual event Safety Advisory Group Meetings as the year progresses.</p> <p>Adaptations, based on monitoring and complaints, have been made over a number of years which have reduced the impact of noise on residential areas.</p> <p>In 2018 there will be a particular focus on monitoring low frequency noise, in</p>

				relation to the feedback around the perception that buildings are vibrating.
7	The Head of Direct Services and Licensing Team Leader are recommended to work with the Feedback and Information Governance Team to review the process for logging event complaints. There should be one point of contact to: (a) enable appropriate and timely responses from the Council, event promoters and/or other agencies to complaints received from residents in Haringey, Hackney and Islington; (b) enable greater understanding of the issues raised; and (c) ensure lessons can be learnt from the feedback received.	Agreed	Head of Commissioning and Client and Licensing Team Leader Reviewed annually	The principal of one point of contact that is hosted by the council has been established with the major event organisers. The process is reviewed annually with organisers and Islington and Hackney.
8	To ensure improvements are made in relation to crowd management, including security and stewarding, it is recommended that the Safety Advisory Group give consideration to the following issues when advising on future events:	Actions a – e will be included as part of the development of the Event Management Plan for each event.	Head of Commissioning and Client and Licensing Team Leader	These are ongoing and will be developed through the Safety Advisory Group Meetings for individual events as the year progresses.
(a)	The need for all relevant agencies to be in the control room during an event.	Agreed	Ongoing	Each event will have its own requirements which will be reflected in the Event Management Plan.
(b)	The security arrangements for both in and outside the park should be reviewed. This should include consideration of increased police resource and importantly the use of more SIA accredited stewards who can work alongside council officers.	Agreed		

<p>(c)</p> <p>(d)</p> <p>(e)</p>	<p>In addition to stewards receiving appropriate briefings from the event promoters' stewards should also receive a briefing from council staff to ensure local knowledge / information about the area is passed on.</p> <p>Resources should be set asides to ensure stewards, working in pairs with suitable local knowledge, can provide a visible presence in local side roads, ensuring sign posting to public toilets, public transport and other local facilities.</p> <p>The introduction of a robust three-stage entry system, using the existing site footprint, to improve ingress arrangements minimising the opportunity for anyone to enter the site without a ticket.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>This item will also be incorporated as a condition of hire of the park.</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>This will only be appropriate at major events of circa 45,000 attendance.</p>		
<p>9</p>	<p>The Head of Traffic Management is recommended to review Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) arrangements to ensure they are appropriate for events held in Finsbury Park with consideration given to CPZ timings being consistent across the three boroughs during events.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Any recommendation to be implemented prior to first major event in 2016.</p>	<p>Head of Traffic Management</p> <p>Reviewed annually</p>	<p>This will be considered, subject to necessary permissions and available budgets, as part of the 2018 parking plan.</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>As part of the licensing process each event promoter should be asked to submit additional information, as part of their Event Management Plan, to explain how the take down and handover process will be</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>The street cleaning arrangements are currently split between four</p>	<p>Head of Commissioning and Client and Licensing Team Leader</p>	<p>Since 2016 major event organisers have provided the council with a zonal map detailing the phased approach to build and break of the events. These maps show which parts of the event area are</p>

	managed and signed off. This should include information concerning the street cleaning (and bin collection) schedule for streets affected across Haringey, Islington and Hackney.	organisations. Consideration is currently being given to simplify this to one provider.	Ongoing	closed off and opened, at specific stages of the build and break. Organisers are also required to provide a full cleansing schedule as part of their Event Management Plan. This is discussed in full at the Safety Advisory Group meetings.
11	Following the take down, the Head of Direct Services is recommended to develop a recovery action plan. This should: (a) list any damage, recorded as part of the post event site inspection; (b) detail the repair work that's required (with costs); and (c) provide clear dates for the completion of each maintenance task. This information should be shared with stakeholders (making it clear that the cost of any damage is paid for by the event organiser, not the Council).	Agreed This will form part of the Communications Plan each year.	Head of Commissioning and Client Following each major event	A Recovery Plan is developed, each year, detailing the works required and the timetable for repairs. The Plan is discussed with the Stakeholder group. Repairs are covered by the damage deposit for each event. If the repairs cost more than this then as per the contract with the Event Organiser the company will be charged additionally.
12	To limit the impact events in Finsbury Park have on the local community it is recommended that:		Head of Commissioning and Client	These items are all now implemented.
(a)	Summer holidays should continue to be excluded from any major event booking period and importantly Finsbury Park should be returned, and be in full use, before the start of the summer holidays;	Agreed Contained within the current Outdoor Events Policy.		
(b)	The number of events (five) and duration (a maximum of three days per event), allowed in the policy, should not be increased any further;	Agreed Contained within the current Outdoor Events Policy.		

	<p>(c) Policy implementation should ensure in practice that no more than two successive weekends are used for major events between the end of the May half-term and the start of the summer holiday period, and that no more than two successive weekends are used after the summer holiday period until the end of September;</p> <p>(d) Any events held in Finsbury Park during September should be smaller (than the June/July events) with a maximum capacity of 20,000 to ensure better coordination with other events, such as football at the Emirates Stadium;</p> <p>(e) That events held on a Sunday should always finish no later than 10.00pm.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>This will be included in our booking process.</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>Events have taken place on this scale previously when there has been a home match at The Emirates with no major issues for public transport network.</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>Contained within the current Outdoor Events Policy.</p>		
13	<p>The Committee notes that retailers selling tobacco are obliged to comply with various legislative measures and new national regulations that restrict the display of cigarettes and point of sale advertising to tobacco. With this in mind, and in addition to the licensing process for Finsbury Park, it is recommended that (a) it becomes a condition of hiring the park that any tobacco stalls should be as plain as possible (e.g. no</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Will be made a condition of hire of the park for 2016.</p>	<p>Head of Commissioning and Client and Licensing Team Leader</p>	<p>This now forms part of the standard contract for hire of the park.</p>

	bright colours or lights) to help prevent the promotion of smoking; and that (b) any evidence arising from this year's events in relation to tobacco products be reviewed by the Licensing Team Leader in advance of future events.	Evidence will be reviewed.		Reviewed annually and to date event organisers fully compliant.
14	The Cabinet member for Environment is recommended to develop a 3-5 year programme of events for Finsbury Park to enable all stakeholders to better prepare and plan for events.	Agreed Will work towards this to commence in 2017.	Cabinet Member for Environment and Head of Commissioning and Client	Ongoing – research has commenced with neighbouring boroughs and also with other organisations that can assist the council in developing its approach. Note that progress regarding this has been slowed due to the ongoing legal challenges
15	In developing a 3-5 year events programme for Finsbury Park the Cabinet Member for Environment is recommended to give consideration to:	Agreed	Head of Commissioning and Client Ongoing	As above in 14.
(a)	Delivering events that reflects the diversity of Haringey's population. This should include providing opportunities for local artists / bands to show case their talent during events held in Finsbury Park.	The hire of the park is subject to market demands particularly for major events. Therefore diversity must be considered across the commercial, charity and community events held across all parks.		
(b)	Using the expertise and knowledge from across the council to deliver a mixed and diverse range of events that help the Council to achieve objectives set out in the Corporate Plan.	Officers from across the council will work together to deliver this.		

<p>(c)</p> <p>(d)</p> <p>(e)</p> <p>(f)</p> <p>(g)</p> <p>(h)</p>	<p>The provision of event space for local community groups, charities and businesses to promote their work during events.</p> <p>Encouraging more members of the public, including community groups and charities, to hold events in the park.</p> <p>Working with event promoters to identify opportunities for work experience and volunteering.</p> <p>Working with event promoters to enable the Council and local Jobcenters to signpost, and help local residents gain skills required, for jobs that become available during events held in Finsbury Park.</p> <p>Working with event promoters to ensure local businesses have opportunities to take part in events, e.g. catering, and looking at how the Council can support local businesses overcome any barriers identified.</p> <p>Providing a discounted/lottery ticket scheme for local residents.</p>	<p>Where possible each major event will include opportunities for this to take place.</p> <p>Council has a Community Events Project as part of the Priority 3 Programme. This will support the delivery of this recommendation.</p> <p>The key to this is the early agreement of events and the 3 – 5 year programme.</p> <p>As above.</p> <p>As above.</p> <p>The delivery of this will be developed in conjunction with the event organisers and will vary dependent on the particular audience profile for individual events.</p>		
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