

Newspaper reports submitted by Fof FP

The Guardian



Live Nation walks away from Hyde Park concerts over 'flawed' tender process

Company behind events including Live 8 and Bruce Springsteen concert cites issues such as noise restrictions for decision

Mark Sweney

Mon 22 Oct 2012 17:15 BST

Live Nation is quitting Hyde Park after more than a decade of putting on music events including Live 8, the Wireless Festival and Hard Rock Calling, citing issues including noise restrictions and logistics.

The world's biggest live music company, which most recently organised 25 days of events linked to the London 2012 Olympics in Hyde Park, has pulled out of what it branded a "flawed" tender process for a new five-year contract for the prime central London venue.

Live Nation has written a formal letter of complaint about the tender and bid process for the new contract.

It is understood that the letter raises issues such as noise - in July Bruce Springsteen and Sir Paul McCartney's microphones were switched off during a duet due to curfew issues. Other issues understood to have been highlighted by Live Nation include

crowd safety considerations in shutting off Park Lane and unrealistic revenue assumptions.

Live Nation's letter has been delivered to the Royal Parks Agency, an executive agency within the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, which is running the process.

The letter is understood to be highly critical of the RPA's tender document, arguing that it fails to take into account the increasingly complex logistics and costs of running big events in such a central location in London.

Live Nation, the owner of Ticketmaster, has enjoyed a decade-long relationship with the RPA.

Since 2001, Live Nation has organised Hyde Park events including Live 8 and concerts by high-profile acts such as Madonna, Bruce Springsteen, Bon Jovi and Shania Twain.

Royal Parks awarded Live Nation a formal contract for the period 2009 to 2012, with the tender process for the new contract to run from 2013 to 2019.

Live Nation declined to comment. The RPA had not responded to a request for comment at the time of publication.

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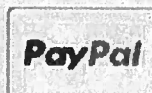
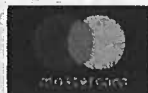
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Entertainment & Arts

Live Nation may end 10-year link with Hyde Park

24 October 2012



Live Nation may pull out of staging concerts in Hyde Park in London because of a dispute over the tender process.

The live music company has filed a letter of complaint to The Royal Parks raising "serious concerns" about the tender and bid process for the new four-year contract up to 2017.

It said it is "focusing on alternative venues" while it awaits a decision.

Live Nation has brought the likes of Paul Simon, Madonna, Rihanna and Live 8 to Hyde Park over the past decade.

It was also responsible for 25 days of events at the London venue as part of the London 2012 Festival supporting the Olympics.

In July, fans at this year's Hard Rock Calling event were bemused when Bruce Springsteen and Sir Paul McCartney's microphones were switched off during a duet.

According to Westminster Council, Live Nation took the decision to end the concert "to comply with their licence".

Criticisms

Live Nation later issued a statement saying it was "unfortunate" the performance had been "stopped right at the very end".

It said a 22:30 BST curfew had been "laid down by the authorities in the interest of the public's health and safety".

The Guardian reported it understood Live Nation had been "highly critical" of The Royal Parks tender document, claiming it did not recognise the complex logistics and costs associated with running big events in a central location in London.

It added the complaint letter also highlighted issues such as noise restrictions, crowd safety considerations in shutting off neighbouring Park Lane and unrealistic revenue assumptions.

The Royal Parks, a government agency within the Department for Culture, Media and Sport which is managing the tender process, declined to discuss any details until the process was complete.

New rules

It said the process was "ongoing" and it would "not be appropriate" to comment until a decision had been reached.

In a statement to the BBC, Live Nation, which owns the ticket purchasing company Ticketmaster, said it was looking forward to a "detailed response" from The Royal Parks and "in the meantime" was looking at other locations for its concerts and festivals in 2013.

Since 2008, complaints about noise in Hyde Park almost doubled promoting a review of the venue's licence to host events.

In February this year, Westminster Council took a decision to reduce the number of concerts held annually at Hyde Park from 13 to nine, after complaints from residents.

The council also cut the number of people who could attend events from 80,000 to 65,000 - and in some cases, to 50,000.

The new measures come into effect next year.

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Two people reportedly died after attending Wireless Festival 2018

Damian Jones | Jul 12, 2018 7:21 pm



Wireless Festival Credit: Getty



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Community

Wireless Festival: two die amid calls for park ban

Revellers' deaths come after Finsbury Park neighbours' protests over noise, drug-taking and rowdy behaviour

13 July, 2018 — By [Emily Finch](#)

One of the review notices at Finsbury Park (Credit: Clive Carter)

A COMMUNITY group has made a fresh bid to block festivals taking over a popular park for months at a time as two revellers died after attending Wireless festival.

Police are investigating the death of a 20-year-old woman in hospital on Monday after "becoming ill" at the music festival on Sunday while a 16-year-old died in hospital after he collapsed in Seven Sisters Road following a suspected asthma attack.

Residents living near Finsbury Park, which borders Islington but is managed by Haringey Council, have slammed the council for blocking access to half of the park for months at a time.

Jono Kenyon, 42, who lives near the park, told the *Tribune*: "I've lived in this area for over 40 years, but this is the worst it's been. We, as local residents, have to tolerate a lot of anti-social behaviour, with huge amounts of drug-taking in the street.

"There is drug paraphernalia all over the children's playground. The aftermath is disgusting."

He added: "It feels as if Haringey licensing have given up caring about this community."



Rubbish left at the park playground (Credit: @mum_on_bike)

Another resident, Emily Turner, said streets around Finsbury Park tube station were covered in a thick layer of grime for days after the festival.

"There were just so many people on Saturday and Sunday," she said. "Many were rowdy and, combined with football crowds, I saw a lot of women being harassed."

Around 45,000 visited Finsbury Park on each of the three days of Wireless festival, with some travelling hundreds of miles to hear musicians Stormzy and Drake.

For the past few years community group The Friends of Finsbury Park has tirelessly campaigned to block festivals in the park because it says the green space should be preserved for use by the community.

Around half of the park is blocked by a 10ft fence between May and October for nine events.

The group mounted an unsuccessful challenge at the Court of Appeal last November when a judge ruled that Haringey Council could continue hiring out the park for large-scale events.

This week, it has submitted a licence challenge to Haringey, claiming that the organisers of Wireless, Live Nation (Music) UK, failed to prevent public nuisance and crime and disorder.

Group chairman Simon Hunt, 21, said: "The challenge is based on sound recordings we made last year. We believe the festival breaches the sound levels agreed. We have people writing to us to say their house is shaking because the bass levels are so high."

He added: "People say they don't want to live around here anymore. If you move to a park area you're looking for a tranquil open space. Instead, this place has thousands of people at the weekend causing noise pollution."

Mr Hunt said he felt positive for the future of the park after the vice-chair of his group was chosen as a councillor in Haringey during this year's May elections.

A Haringey Council spokeswoman said: "Our clean-up team have been working at the park since the festival finished. We understand that residents have concerns and would encourage them to share them with us.

"Haringey has some fantastic green spaces and we work hard to keep them maintained all year round. We treat all complaints seriously and will aim to resolve them as swiftly as possible."

Residents can make representations towards the review until August 2 when a licensing sub-committee will consider the application.

The organisers of Wireless festival did not respond to requests for a comment, despite numerous phone calls and emails.



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APPENDIX B44

Patel, Bina

From: Peermamode, Ryan
Sent: 16 January 2012 14:27
To: 'zac@zacgoldsmith.com'
Cc: 'Rachel Hepworth'; Ralph, Andrew; Patel, Bina
Subject: FW: Hyde Park Concerts

From: Zac Goldsmith [mailto:zac@zacgoldsmith.com]
Sent: 13 January 2012 10:55
To: Premises Licensing
Subject: Hyde Park Concerts

Dear Committee Member,

As a Trustee of the Royal Parks Foundation, I am very concerned to learn that the Hyde Park concerts are under threat and, as a consequence, the sustainability of Hyde Park itself.

Through my work with the Royal Parks Foundation, I know the care and consideration demonstrated by The Royal Parks in their management of all eight Royal Parks, including Hyde Park. The Parks are the best loved open spaces in the capital and the Royal Parks' custodianship ensures they are enjoyed by so many, in so many different ways.

Approximately £1.5million is generated each year by the summer concert series. Given recent budget cuts, this money is integral to the daily maintenance of all eight Royal Parks. To understand the impact the loss of this funding will have on the organisation, the committee should consider that £1.5million is the annual cost of ground maintenance in Hyde Park.

If you make the dramatic changes you propose to the Licence arrangements for Hyde Park concerts, particularly the reduction in number of concerts from 13 to 6 per year and the proposed noise restriction to 73 decibels, this will make the events unviable and remove the essential income stream needed to maintain and manage Hyde Park each year.

Countless people enjoy Hyde Park – and I sincerely want future generations to have the same opportunity. However, I am concerned for the future of the Park if The Royal Parks are prevented from raising the funds required to maintain this precious open space.

I therefore urge you to re-consider your plans and to support The Royal Parks proposal to continue with the concert

h

and Park and North Kingston and Royal Parks Foundation Trustee

APPENDIX B45

**Dr Anna R Mann
58 Harley Street
London
W1G 9QB**

13th January 2012

Dear Committee Member,

As a Trustee of the Royal Parks Foundation, I am very concerned to learn that the Hyde Park concerts are under threat and, as a consequence, the sustainability of Hyde Park itself.

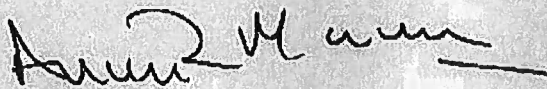
Through my work with the Royal Parks Foundation, I know the care and consideration demonstrated by The Royal Parks in their management of all eight Royal Parks, including Hyde Park. The Parks are the best loved open spaces in the capital and the Royal Parks' custodianship ensures they are enjoyed by so many, in so many different ways.

Approximately £1.5million is generated each year by the summer concert series. Given recent budget cuts, this money is integral to the daily maintenance of all eight Royal Parks. To understand the impact the loss of this funding will have on the organisation, the committee should consider that £1.5million is the annual cost of ground maintenance in Hyde Park.

If you make the dramatic changes you propose to the Licence arrangements for Hyde Park concerts, particularly the proposed noise restriction of 73 decibels, this will make the events unviable and remove the essential income stream needed to maintain and manage Hyde Park each year.

I want to continue enjoying Hyde Park - and for my children after me and future generations to come to visit Hyde Park. But I fear for the future of the Park if The Royal Parks are prevented from raising the funds required to maintain this glorious open space.

I therefore urge you to re-consider your plans and to support The Royal Parks proposal to continue with the concert series.



ANNA R MANN

Royal Parks Foundation Trustee (and local resident)

APPENDIX B46

Patel, Bina

From: Peermamode, Ryan
Sent: 17 January 2012 11:53
To: 'benjaminfogle@aol.com'
Cc: 'Rachel Hepworth', Ralph, Andrew, Patel, Bina
Subject: Hyde Park Premises Licence Review

From: Ben Fogle [<mailto:benjaminfogle@aol.com>]
Sent: 13 January 2012 17:20
To: Premises Licensing
Subject:

Dear Committee Member,

I am very concerned to learn that the Hyde Park concerts are under threat and, as a consequence, the sustainability of Hyde Park itself.

From an early age, I have enjoyed visiting Hyde Park and, in my lifetime, I have walked nearly 20,000 miles of the Park. I know every tree and each blade of grass. In Hyde Park, I have revised for exams, walked puppies and mourned the loss of older dogs, courted and split up, trained for arctic expeditions and desert adventures. I even met Marina, the love of my life, whilst walking my dog in Hyde Park.

If you make the dramatic changes you propose to the Licence arrangements for Hyde Park concerts, particularly the proposed noise restriction of 73 decibels, this will make the events unviable and remove the essential income stream needed to maintain and manage Hyde Park each year.

I want to continue enjoying Hyde Park - and for my children after me and future generations to come to visit Hyde Park. But I fear for the future of the Park if The Royal Parks are prevented from raising the funds required to maintain this glorious open space.

I therefore urge you to re-consider your plans and to support The Royal Parks proposal to continue with the concert series

Ben Fogle

Royal Parks Foundation Trustee and local resident

APPENDIX B47

Patel, Bina

From: Peermamode, Ryan
Sent: 17 January 2012 17:18
To: 'parkhouse1@mac.com'
Cc: 'Rachel Hepworth'; Ralph, Andrew; Patel, Bina
Subject: FW: Concerts In Hyde Park

From: Park House, England [<mailto:parkhouse1@mac.com>]
Sent: 15 January 2012 17:10
To: Premises Licensing
Subject: Concerts in Hyde Park

Dear Committee Member,

I am a Trustee of the Royal Parks Foundation, and as such I am extremely concerned to learn that the Hyde Park concerts are under threat and, as a consequence, the sustainability of Hyde Park itself.

I know the care and consideration demonstrated by The Royal Parks in their management of all eight Royal Parks, including Hyde Park, through my work with the Royal Parks Foundation.

The Parks are the best loved open spaces in the capital and the Royal Parks' custodianship ensures they are enjoyed by so many, in so many different ways.

Approximately £1.5million is generated each year by the summer concert series. As you are aware, given the recent budget cuts, this money is integral to the daily maintenance of all eight Royal Parks.

To understand the impact the loss of this funding will have on the organisation, the committee should consider that £1.5million is the annual cost of ground maintenance in Hyde Park.

If you make the dramatic changes you propose to the Licence arrangements for Hyde Park concerts, particularly the proposed noise restriction of 73 decibels, this will make the events unviable and remove the essential income stream needed to maintain and manage Hyde Park each year.

I want to continue enjoying Hyde Park and for future generations to come to visit Hyde Park and enjoy all this incredible space has to offer - but I fear for the future of Hyde Park if The Royal Parks are prevented from raising the funds required to maintain this glorious open space.

Therefore, please, I urge you to re-consider your plans and to support The Royal Parks' proposal to continue with the concert series.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robin Russell

Lord Robin Russell
Royal Parks Foundation Trustee

APPENDIX B48

26 Queen Anne's Gate
London SW1H 9AB

January 13th 2012

Dear Committee Member

We would like to register our strong opposition to your proposed changes to the current premises licence governing the hosting of events in Hyde Park. Thanks to Hyde Park's long history of hosting concerts of significant cultural value, in addition to its unique situation in the heart of London, the venue is held in high esteem by performers as well as the public.

Speaking as a Trustee of the Royal Parks Foundation and a musician who has played live in Hyde Park, we believe we can offer a highly relevant opinion of the impact the proposed changes would have.

The eight Royal Parks are the best loved open spaces in the capital and it is testimony to the Royal Parks' custodianship that they are enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of people in many different ways.

Approximately £1.5million is generated each year by the summer concert series. Given recent budget cuts, this money is integral to the daily maintenance of all eight Royal Parks. To understand the impact the loss this funding would have on the organisation, the committee should consider that £1.5million is the annual cost of ground maintenance in Hyde Park.

The Royal Parks, in an effort to tackle the impact of low frequency noise (amongst other things), have presented a series of amendments to their licence which address the concerns raised by local residents. These proposals would preserve the value of Hyde Park as a venue and we would urge you not to impose conditions that would impact on revenue and make the concerts unviable for artists who wish their music to be experienced with equal quality at the inner and outer edges of the audience. Such an outcome would have a detrimental impact on the cultural landscape of London, as well as that of its most loved open spaces.

Trudie Styler – Trustee, Royal Parks Foundation and Royal Parks neighbour

Sting – Musician and Royal Parks neighbour

APPENDIX B49

Patel, Bina

From: Peermamode, Ryan
Sent: 16 January 2012 12:04
To: 'Caroline Spencer'
Cc: 'Rachel Hopworth', Ralph, Andrew, Patel, Bina
Subject: Hyde Park Review

From: Caroline Spencer [mailto:pldge@me.com]
Sent: 12 January 2012 20:48
To: Premises Licensing
Subject: Hyde Park Summer Concerts

Dear Committee Member,

As a Trustee of the Royal Parks Foundation, I am very concerned to learn that the Hyde Park concerts are under threat and, as a consequence, the sustainability of Hyde Park itself.

Through my work with the Royal Parks Foundation, I know the care and consideration demonstrated by The Royal Parks in their management of all eight Royal Parks, including Hyde Park. The Parks are the best loved open spaces in the capital and the Royal Parks' custodianship ensures they are enjoyed by so many, in so many different ways.

Approximately £1.5million is generated each year by the summer concert series. Given recent budget cuts, this money is integral to the daily maintenance of all eight Royal Parks. To understand the impact the loss of this funding will have on the organisation, the committee should consider that £1.5million is the annual cost of ground maintenance in Hyde Park.

If you make the dramatic changes you propose to the Licence arrangements for Hyde Park concerts, particularly the proposed noise restriction of 73 decibels, this will make the events unviable and remove the essential income stream needed to maintain and manage Hyde Park each year.

I want to continue enjoying Hyde Park - and for future generations to come to visit Hyde Park. But I fear for the future of the Park if The Royal Parks are prevented from raising the funds required to maintain this glorious open space.

I therefore urge you to re-consider your plans and to support The Royal Parks proposal to continue with the concert series

Yours faithfully

Caroline Spencer

Royal Parks Foundation Trustee (and local resident)

APPENDIX B50

Patel, Bina

From: Peermamode, Ryan
Sent: 17 January 2012 11:07
To: 'Ian.Todd@imgworld.com'
Co: 'Rachel Hepworth'; Ralph, Andrew; Patel, Bina
Subject: FW: HYDE PARK CONCERTS

From: Todd, Ian [<mailto:Ian.Todd@imgworld.com>]

Sent: 13 January 2012 15:19

To: Premises Licensing

Subject: HYDE PARK CONCERTS

Dear Committee Member,

As a Trustee of the Royal Parks Foundation, I am very concerned to learn that the Hyde Park concerts are under threat and, as a consequence, the sustainability of Hyde Park itself.

Through my work with the Royal Parks Foundation, I know the care and consideration demonstrated by The Royal Parks in their management of all eight Royal Parks, including Hyde Park. The Parks are the best loved open spaces in the capital and the Royal Parks' custodianship ensures they are enjoyed by so many, in so many different ways.

Approximately £1.5million is generated each year by the summer concert series. Given recent budget cuts, this money is integral to the daily maintenance of all eight Royal Parks. To understand the impact the loss of this funding will have on the organisation, the committee should consider that £1.5million is the annual cost of ground maintenance in Hyde Park.

If you make the dramatic changes you propose to the Licence arrangements for Hyde Park concerts, particularly the proposed noise restriction of 73 decibels, this will make the events unviable and remove the essential income stream needed to maintain and manage Hyde Park each year.

I want to continue enjoying Hyde Park - and for my children after me and future generations to come to visit Hyde Park, but I fear for the future of the Park if The Royal Parks are prevented from raising the funds required to maintain this glorious open space.

I therefore urge you to re-consider your plans and to support The Royal Parks proposal to continue with the concert series

Yours sincerely,

Ian T. Todd

Royal Parks Foundation Trustee

APPENDIX B51

Patal, Bina

From: Hanson, Gemma
Sent: 03 January 2012 17:01
To: 'Anthony Cleaver'
Cc: 'afarrar@royalparks.gsi.gov.uk'; Premises Licensing Inspectorate
Subject: RE: Hyde Park Concerts 11/12334/LIREVP

From: Sir Anthony Cleaver [<mailto:a.cleaver1@btinternet.com>]
Sent: 02 January 2012 10:09
To: Premises Licensing
Subject: Hyde Park Concerts

We are writing on behalf of the 450 members of The Friends of Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens to oppose the Council's proposed amendments to the Premises licence for Hyde Park.

We and many of our members have been very concerned with the impact of these major concerts on the Park, not just the noise levels but also the disruption to regular users of the Park and the damage to the environment they often cause. We would certainly welcome a reduction in the number of concerts, from the maximum of 13 currently permitted, and also some reduction in the noise level.

However, we are very conscious of the financial pressures the Royal Parks face in the current economic climate and believe that it will not be possible for the management to maintain the current standards in the Parks with the loss of income the Council's proposals would entail.

In the longer term we would hope that the Royal Parks might find it possible to host some major events in Parks other than Hyde Park, which currently subsidises all the other Parks in this way. Until then, we believe that the Royal Parks' proposal of a reduction to 9 concerts a year is a reasonable compromise. Similarly, we believe that the reduction in permitted music level from 15db(A) above the background noise level outside the Park to 10db(A) may make it impossible to host major concerts and would suggest a lesser reduction to, say, 12 or 13db(A).

Lady Cleaver & Mrs J Hyer
Co-chairmen

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Patel, Bina

From: Eaton, Sam
Sent: 09 January 2012 13:04
To: 'chiefexecutive@royalparks.gsi.gov.uk'; 'afarrar@royalparks.gsi.gov.uk'; EH Consultation Team; Premises Licensing Inspectorate
Subject: FW: FROM Friends of Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens

From: JACKY HYER
Sent: Tuesday, January 03, 2012 6:49 PM
To: premiseslicencing@westminster.gov.uk
Subject: FROM Friends of Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens

Sirs: Being fully aware of the need to be as self-financing as possible we have had to accept many moneymaking events despite the regular disruption they cause to our members and all park users. However, with the annual decrease of funding from DCMS over the last three years of 5% cumulative the ~Royal Parks would be unable to maintain their high standard, acclaimed worldwide, without the income derived from these large events.

Certainly the diminution of sound level would be an asset but a middle ground of 13db(A) would be more realistic. With this in place, the number of concerts could remain at 9 per annum, which is the number this year. That brings in income without closing out large tracts of the Parks for long periods.

We consider this to be a realistic course which our members would support and encourage you to consider this proposal.

Yours,

Jacqueline Hyer and Lady Cleaver

Licence & Appeal History

Application	Details of Application	Date Determined	Decision
New 06/01112/LIPN	For a new premises licence	23.03.2006	Granted by Licensing Sub Committee with conditions
DPS 06/05310/LIPDPS	Application to vary the designated premises supervisor	28.06.2006	Granted under delegated authority
DPS 06/08782/LIPDPS	Application to vary the designated premises supervisor	14.09.2006	Granted under delegated authority
DPS 06/12602/LIPDPS	Application to vary the designated premises supervisor	14.02.2007	Granted under delegated authority
DPS 07/04635/LIPDPS	Application to vary the designated premises supervisor	18.05.2007	Granted under delegated authority
DPS 07/04638/LIPDPS	Application to vary the designated premises supervisor	27.06.2007	Granted under delegated authority
DPS 09/04670/LIPDPS	Application to vary the designated premises supervisor	09.07.2009	Granted under delegated authority
DPS 09/06773/LIPDPS	Application to vary the designated premises supervisor	10.12.2009	Granted under delegated authority
DPS 10/04753/LIPDPS	Application to vary the designated premises supervisor	16.07.2010	Granted under delegated authority
DPS 10/05212/LIPDPS	Application to vary the designated premises supervisor	28.07.2010	Granted under delegated authority
New 11/00689/LIPN	Application for a 'Time Limited' licence from 21.05.2011 to 28.05.2011 for the north end of Hyde Park	17.03.2011	Granted by a Licensing Sub committee
DPS 11/04226/LIPDPS	Application to vary the designated premises supervisor	20.05.2011	Granted under delegated authority
DPS 11/05731/LIPDPS	Application to vary the designated premises supervisor	22.06.2011	Granted under delegated authority
DPS 11/07745/LIPDPS	Application to vary the designated premises supervisor	03.08.2011	Granted under delegated authority
Variation 11/10775/LIPV	To vary the existing premises licence so as to add, with immediate effect, the following conditions: The premises will not hold Major Events on more than 4 consecutive days under this	13.12.2011	Withdrawn by applicants

Licence (new condition); (n.b 'Major Events' is defined in the existing licence)

To amend, with immediate effect, condition 18(c) from:

"Drinks will not be sold or served in glass vessels or containers"

to read:

"Drinks will not be sold or served in glass vessels or containers except in designated hospitality areas."

The Premises Licence holder will in advance of any Major Events liaise with the Licensing Authority, Transport for London and the Metropolitan Police Service as regard the safe egress of patrons from the Events Site (new condition)

To amend condition 11, with effect from 1st January 2013, from:

"Unless otherwise agreed with the City Council, the total number of people to be accommodated for the purpose of this Licence, in any event site at any one time, shall not be more than 79 999 (excluding security, staff, performers and employees)."

To read:

"Unless otherwise agreed with the City Council, the total number of people to be accommodated for the purpose of this Licence, in any event site at any one time, shall not be more than 65,000 (excluding security, staff, performers and employees)"

To amend condition 20, with effect from 1st January 2013, from:

"Unless the prior consent of the Environmental Health Consultation Team has been obtained, the premises may hold Major Events on no more than 13 days in any calendar year."

To read:

"Unless the prior consent of the Environmental Health Consultation Team has been obtained, the Premises may hold Major Events under this Licence on no more than 9 days in any calendar year, of which a maximum of 7 will be held in any rolling 21 day period."