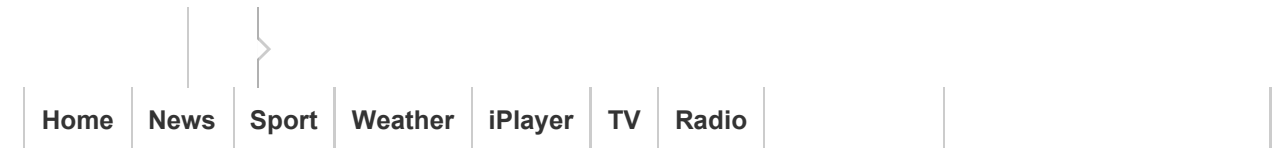


## Let us know you agree to cookies

We use [cookies](#) to give you the best online experience. Please let us know if you agree to all of these cookies.

**Yes, I agree**

**No, take me to settings**



---

[Home](#) | [UK](#) | [World](#) | [Business](#) | [Politics](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) |

## 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.

## Share this story About sharing

---

## More on this story

---

### **Bruce Springsteen curfew 'not for health and safety'**

17 July 2012

### **Springsteen and McCartney silenced at long London gig**

15 July 2012

### **Hyde Park concert numbers reduced**

17 February 2012

---

## Related Internet links

---

### **The Royal Parks**

### **Live Nation**

The BBC is not responsible for the content of external Internet sites

### **Entertainment & Arts**

**Burt Reynolds turned down James Bond - and 10 other stars who rejected great roles**