

Your Ref:

Our Ref: Licensing

Date: 8th April 2021

The Licensing Authority RA wish to make representation against the application under all the four licensing objectives.

Finsbury park itself is part of an ongoing police operation within the area to tackle Crime and ASB. There have always been issues of drug dealing, rough sleeping, youth crime (including gang related issues) and alcohol related offences. We have concerns that the application submitted for the ongoing event like Open Arms may attract these issues to merge and cause increased crime and ASB with patrons being potential victims or exacerbating the situation due to alcohol consumption.

The application submitted is seeking the ability to offer licensable activity but has not stated a capacity limit. Under the legislation the payment of fees for a premises licence is dependent on its non domestic rateable value. Invariably for park locations there is no rateable value and therefore the applicant pays £100, this however means a capacity of 4999 people could be considered.

The application form is silent on this matter and does not give a capacity. There is a passing statement in the event management plan referencing an expectancy of 50-200 people per day at the locations the applicants are seeking to hold the event in Finsbury/Clissold Park.

The application seeking the ability to offer alcohol sales across the relevant days at the following timings:

Wednesday to Sunday 1200 to 2100 hours
Bank Holiday Mondays 1200 to 2100 hours

Supply of Alcohol

Wednesday to Sunday 1200 to 2100 hours
Bank Holiday Mondays 1200 to 2100 hours

For consumption **ON** and **OFF** the premises

Hours open to the public

Wednesday to Sunday 1200 to 2130 hours
Bank Holiday Mondays 1200 to 2130 hours

The Licensing Service has spoken with the Parks Service as the landlords for the space being applied and have been informed of the following terms of hire for the space.

- The event capacity would be for 200 people at any one time
- Opening times discussed were limited to a Wednesday / Thursday from 5pm to 9pm,
- Friday, Saturday and Sunday midday until 9pm.
- On the shorter days the Parks Service advise that they were expecting two performances lasting up to an hour each and Saturday and Sunday three to four performances.
- Generally apart from the first two hours they expected performances every other hour.

- Parks have also advised that they were expecting the event was more food and entertainment led with alcohol sales only for those who are sitting in vicinity of the performance space.
- The Parks Team also discussed the need for the event to be fenced to define the area.

There are also concerns about the noise these events may create, not just from the artists but from the crowd who may attend. There is no way of being able to determine the noise level at the moment. But with live music and the potential of an unknown number of attendees, the noise could be considerable enough to cause a disturbance to local residents.

The application submitted for the licence differs greatly from discussions undertaken with the Parks Service (landowners) hiring the space. We also have concerns that this is being promoted as an open event space with the ability for 'Off' sales so anyone could purchase alcohol from the event space to consume anywhere in the park.

We feel the Licensing Sub committee should consider the following matters when determining this application;

Covid – Step 2 – Events

An event can take place at Step 2 if:

1. All three of the following conditions are met:
 - a) The event takes place outdoors
 - b) Attendees are expected to arrive and leave the event in a staggered manner throughout the day
 - c) It does not involve attendees converging on and congregating in a site for a specific discrete performance or activity, such as a theatre or music performance, OR
2. It is a drive-in performance or show.

Covid – Step 3 – Events - Permitted events — no earlier than 17 May 2021

Events that are able to commence from Step 3 include those where:

1. People are likely to congregate in one area for the duration of the event.
2. People are likely to enter or leave the venue in large numbers at a similar time.

This could include events and activities such as:

- business events such as conferences, trade shows, exhibitions, charity auctions, and private dining events such as charity or gala dinners and awards ceremonies, and corporate hospitality
- cinemas
- live performances
- circuses
- air shows
- historical /battle reenactments
- live animal performances such as falconry displays at events
- non-elite and professional sporting events

Event organisers will need to adhere to the [requirements set out at the start of this guidance](#). This includes the need to follow the relevant COVID-secure guidance, taking reasonable steps to limit the risk of transmission, completing a related risk assessment, and adhering to all legal requirements, including ensuring that those attending an event do not mix beyond what is permitted by social contact limits.

These limits for permitted organised gatherings will be:

- **Indoors** - rule of 6 or 2 households
- **Outdoors** - 30 people

Organisers should also mitigate risk to public health by controlling attendance, limiting numbers to take account of the space and ventilation of a venue and implementing effective infection prevention and control measures.

1. Event organisers follow all relevant COVID-secure guidance depending on the type of event, and complete a related risk assessment. This guidance varies according to the type of event and could include [outdoor events](#), [funfairs](#), [performing arts](#) or [sports events](#) (full list in the [Existing guidance](#) section).
2. Organisers and attendees adhere to all legal requirements, including maintaining group sizes permitted by social contact restrictions at the relevant step in the Roadmap and preventing mixing between groups, enforcing social distancing guidelines and mandating face coverings in indoor areas where required.
3. All reasonable action has been taken by the event organiser to mitigate risk to public health.

Proposed conditions:

- In our view does not adequately reflect the terms of the intended use by which the use of the park space is being hired.
- There shall be a fence around the full perimeter of the licensable area.
- Alcohol sales shall be for consumption onsite within the event space.
- No 'Off' sales shall be permitted to prevent any nuisance or distress to other park users away from the event location.
- Hours of operation to be limited to Wednesday / Thursday from 5pm to 9pm, Friday, Saturday and Sunday midday until 9pm.
- Consideration of the Bank Holiday Monday operation to be discussed and agreed
- The specific number of volunteers, stewards, marshals and frontline SIA staff shall be agreed with Police and Licensing Authority and recorded in the Event Management Plan.
- This will be based on a capacity of staff and customers for the entire licensable area. The numbers of staff will reflect the different challenges of the individual days various events and will not be generic.
- The premises licence holder shall ensure that any person appearing to be under the influence of illegal drugs shall be refused entry.
- Any person deemed unfit due to drink or drugs at the event shall be asked to leave the event after organisers have considered that it is safe for them to leave the site.
- Any incident where a person is ejected from the site should be recorded in a 'Refusals' book which should be shown to a Police Officer or Local Authority Licensing Officer if requested
- As alcohol is being sold at these events, we would expect the patrons to remain at the location, within the specified fenced off area.

- To ensure the safety of the customers who attend the park for these events, and to prevent unnecessary noise issues, we would like to see a curfew of 9pm on all the days that the event is active.
- From a health & safety perspective, we would want there to be a sufficient amount of hand sanitising stations on the site, not just at locations where food and drink can be bought.
- We would want the organisation to use sufficient lighting and signposting to the nearest transport hubs to ensure that patrons leave as safely, quickly and as quietly as possible.

Yours sincerely

Philip Cone
Licensing Enforcement Officer

Licensing Team
Level 1 River Park House
225 High Road
Wood Green
London, N22 8HQ

T 020 8489 8232
E licensing@haringey.gov.uk

www.haringey.gov.uk