



MEETINGS OF THE
STATUTORY ADVISORY AND CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES

18 JUNE 2026

Report Title: Alexandra Palace Outdoor Events
Report of: Simon Fell – Director of Event & Festivals.
Purpose: To update the committees on Outdoor events in 2026.

1. Executive Summary

This report outlines the delivery of Alexandra Palace's outdoor events programme for 2026, supported by a clear licensing framework and established operational controls.

The Summer Series, Kaleidoscope Festival, Redbull Soapbox and the Fireworks Festival are highlighted, with detailed information provided for each.

Overall, the programme reflects a balanced approach to commercial performance and responsible management of the Park, ensuring events are delivered safely and with consideration for residents.

2. Background

2.1 Licensing Framework

Alexandra Palace operates under two premises licences for licensable activities, including the provision of live and recorded music and the sale of alcohol.

The Palace Licence predates the Park Licence and covers the Palace building, the South Terrace and selected areas of the Park. The Park Licence applies to non-tenanted areas of the Park and excludes those areas covered by the Palace Licence.

2.2 Delivery and Management of Outdoor Events

The licences provide the framework through which outdoor events are delivered, enabling effective monitoring and management of the potential impact on both the Park and residents.

The parameters of the licences allow for the delivery of multiple events, including live music on the South Slope. Alexandra Palace retains full operational control of events delivered under these permissions to ensure compliance with licence conditions and stakeholder requirements.

Since the granting of the Park Licence in 2017, events have been delivered in a measured and responsible manner, minimising physical and environmental impacts, including noise and litter.

A dedicated visitor services operation manages feedback and complaints. Independent noise consultants are engaged at events with amplified sound to monitor compliance.

The organisation undertakes ongoing monitoring of the impact of events on the parkland environment, including post-event clear-up standards and environmental assessment.

Permitted Event Day Noise Levels

Permitted Event Day Noise levels	Number of events
55db	18
65db	5
70db	4
75db	3
Total	30

Build and break-down days are excluded.

Noise levels represent maximum thresholds. The team works to achieve levels below these where possible, with independent monitoring in place.

Outdoor live music events do not exceed 22:30 Monday to Saturday and 22:00 on Sundays.

Up to 300 small-scale event days are permitted annually for audiences under 600, supporting community, creative learning and local activity.

Small-scale events are considered to have lower environmental impact; however, mitigation principles applied to large scale events are still followed.

All event enquiries are assessed against established criteria and approved by the senior team.

Residents are notified via public notices, door drops, social media and on-site signage.

Transport for London (TfL) is engaged where required to manage impacts on bus routes and ensure continuity of service.

Resident and visitor information is published on the Alexandra Palace website and updated regularly. <https://www.alexandrapalace.com/summer-events-community-info/>

3. Outdoor Events in 2026

3.1 Summer Series

Kaleidoscope Festival, produced in house since 2018, forms the cornerstone of Alexandra Palace's outdoor events programme. The event has live music and comedy stages and includes a dedicated family area, offering a broad programme of interactive activities, performances and workshops designed to support a multi-generational audience and widen the festival's appeal

In 2019, the Board approved the development of a broader Summer Series to maximise infrastructure and commercial return.

The programme has grown consistently and is now a key component of the annual offer, delivering both financial contribution and audience development.

In 2026, the programme comprises six outdoor concerts in addition to Kaleidoscope Festival, delivered at a maximum capacity of 14,500 per event.

Post-event surveys are issued to all attendees. These events consistently achieve Net Promoter Scores rated as *Excellent* or *World Class*, demonstrating strong customer satisfaction and delivery against the organisation's purpose.

2026 Schedule

- Thursday 9 July – The Maccabees
- Friday 10 July – Wet Leg
- Saturday 11 July – Kaleidoscope Festival (Rudimental, Groove Armada, Russell Kane, family programme)
- Sunday 12 July – Super Furry Animals
- Thursday 16 July – The Streets
- Friday 17 July – Richard Ashcroft
- Saturday 18 July – The Streets
- In addition to the above Alexandra Palace will show the quarter Finals, Semi Finals and Finals of the FIFA World Cup if England were to progress. This would be shown inside the venue not in the park.

3.2 Operational Impacts:

- **Park closures:** The upper South Slope, Alexandra Palace Way, the South Terrace and the Terrace area outside the Phoenix Bar will also be closed for event delivery during the following periods: Wednesday 8 July to Monday 13 July & Wednesday 15 July to Sunday 19 July. The remainder of the Park will remain open throughout these periods.

Despite the licensable curfew of 22:30 this is only used on one event with all other events finishing at 22:15 to support with minimising local impact

In previous years there has been one main entrance, as one would expect for a events of this size and scale. Due to local resident feedback of an increase of pedestrian around

adjoining streets the events team will be opening a second entrance on the west side of the festival site to allow public access from both directions. This change has required notable increase to infrastructure and management plans.

- **Road closures:** The section of Alexandra Palace Way directly in front of the Palace will be closed in both directions during the following periods: Wednesday 8 July to Monday 13 July & Wednesday 15 July to Sunday 19 July 2026.

In addition, targeted road closures will be implemented on event days as follows: From 14:00 on 9, 10, 12, 16, 17 and 18 July 2026 From 10:00 on 12th July 2026. Station Road and Buckingham Road will also be temporarily closed on each event day for approximately one hour after event close to support safe egress.

Access to the Garden Centre car park will be maintained via the Hornsey Gate entrance

- **Bus Diversions** The W3 bus will be on diversion during the following periods:

Wednesday 8 July to Monday 13 July & Wednesday 15 July to Sunday 19 July

The team at Alexandra Palace have been working closely with TFL to review the bus diversion route after feedback last year. A new diversion route is now in place significantly minimising impact for those who rely on the bus service. With the exception of Alexandra Palace Way, that is closed during the event there is no loss of access to a bus service for residents now.

3.3 Red Bull Soapbox

Red Bull Soapbox is a biennial event taking place on Saturday 20 June 2026, with a maximum attendance of 20,000.

The event is not classified as a licensable activity and sits outside the Park licence. It is managed separately with appropriate operational and regulatory controls overseen by Alexandra Palace.

Operational Impacts:

Park closures To facilitate the event, a section of the Park between Go Ape and Alexandra Palace Way will be closed to the public between Thursday 20 June – Sunday 23 June

Road closures: The section of Alexandra Palace Way from Bedford Road (Ally Pally train station) up to the East Court car park will be closed between Thursday 20 June – Sunday 23 June 2026

Bus Diversions The W3 will be diverted between Thursday 20 June and Sunday 23 June. The 184 bus will be on diversion for one hour between 6-7pm on Saturday 22 June 2026,

4. Fireworks & Drone Festival

The Alexandra Palace Fireworks & Drone Festival is a flagship event and one of London's leading large-scale public events.

The event combines fireworks, a synchronised drone show and a broader festival offer including beer festival, bonfire, funfair, StrEATlife catering concessions and live entertainment, attracting up to 45,000 attendees per night.

It delivers a commercial contribution and supports the organisation's charitable objectives.

The scale of the event requires detailed coordination across transport, safety and stakeholder management to ensure safe and effective delivery.

4.1 Fireworks Festival – Revised Weekend Format

The event has traditionally taken place on a Friday and Saturday during the first weekend of November.

Following a recent review, the Board approved a revised delivery model, moving to a Saturday and Sunday format. This change is intended to increase family attendance through the introduction of an earlier, reduced capacity Sunday display.

Historically, the Saturday event has consistently sold out, with stronger demand than Friday, supporting this revised approach to maximise attendance and improve audience mix.

In 2026, the agreed dates with the APTL Board are Saturday 7 November and Sunday 8 November 2026.

Operational impacts are yet to be confirmed but will be communicated in advance.

5. Legal Implications

The Council's Director of Legal and Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report and has no comment.

6. Financial Implications

The Council's Chief Financial Officer has been consulted in the preparation of this report and has no comment.

7. Use of Appendices

None.