

Jonathan Woodhams
Community Safety Operations Manager Barking and Dagenham

24th June 2020

Dear Jonathan,

Re: Time Limited Premises Licence Application, We Are FSTVL 20, Central Park, Dagenham.

Thank you for your representation.

The first point I noted about this representation is that it only comments on the proposed event in 2020. Our application is for a 10 year licence so am I right to presume that you have no objection in principle to the grant of a 10 year licence.

My second observation is that within the draft conditions which form part of the application, the process is that management plans for an event each year, including 2020, must be scrutinised by the SAG and approved by the Licensing Authority. There is a specific timescale for this and if the plans are not approved, then the event cannot proceed. I would respectfully suggest that this process provides sufficient safeguards.

Specifically with regard to COVID 19, we are in a continually evolving situation. The position has changed dramatically since you wrote your representation, for example, there have been relaxations of social distancing and further relaxations and steps to mitigate risk are planned in the next few weeks. We are aware that further guidance is to be issued specific to the event industry. In the circumstances, it is premature to suggest that a decision should be made now to prevent the event in 2020 going ahead. There is no imperative to do so at this moment in time and the planning process should be allowed to proceed. This process can and will take into account your concerns, updated guidance and all other measures that we will have in place to address risk.

We are in discussion with the Police about the festival (at Superintendent level) and at this time, they are working with us for developing plans for the event. I would be grateful for you to let me know who, in the MPS is advocating that the event should not go ahead.

I welcome the opportunity to discuss your representations with you further and understand that LBBDD are convening a mediation meeting to do this. In the meantime, if you wish to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Reece Miller