

Sent: 11 June 2020 15:15
To: Lamptey Theo
Cc: Jones Timothy ; 'Sian Miller'
Subject: We Are Festival

Hi Theo,

Many thanks for your time last week and as promised I would expand further on what we discussed

I firstly think it is important to stress that:

- Our interpretation of the compliance report and data from the 2019 event along with predictions based on the known layout that year indicate that the event was not wholly compliant with the limits and indeed it most probably never could have been.
- The limits for were not set in accordance with any guidance (exceed the former Pop Code and don't reflect new research) and would be considered too restrictive for any events of this scale in any urban parks across the UK.
- That the event proposed for 2020 is indeed larger in scale than that in 2019, incorporating a main stage and areas closer to the residential properties and therefore not simply not compatible with the existing limits.

In that context we discussed last week what would be required and how we would normally expect to approach these events. Firstly urban parks present significant challenges to events of this scale and require careful management of noise within appropriate limits that make the event feasible. Across London and throughout the UK we have now seen the traditional 65dB limit relaxed to 75dB. The justification being provided by the fact this is similar to urban stadia where the permitted levels were 75dB(A) which is consistent with the findings of the DEFRA study NANR 292, in that the source location for the concert does not have any impact on the annoyance of residents, so the differentiation between parks and stadia outlined within the old code of practice is irrelevant. In fact looking at the proposed limits of 70dB and those expected to be required of 75dB there would be little significant change of impact on residents.

What is key is how the levels are controlled and monitored during a live event and my proposal for an event of this scale has been a team of three consultants. The first would primarily deal with internal individual stages and be responsible for monitoring each stage (upon which there would be a meter and visual display for engineers) and ensuring that levels do not creep unnecessarily and remain just sufficient for audience enjoyment (typically around 98dB and 110dB in the lower frequencies). We therefore know that the site is fully in control. We would then have two consultants off-site looking at gathering data and ensuring compliance with one of these also assigned to complaint response. By having such resources external you are able to both respond and gather data, crucial if you are to manage the overall noise site output. All these consultants will be in real time contact and react to issues in a proactive way.

The final key to any events of this genre is the management of the low frequency, something which is easier with multiple stages if it is monitored as you can typically look to achieve a off-site rumble rather than an pronounced thump from a single stage. We typically again do this by limiting levels of site and monitoring frequency balance offsite, locating any issues and taking corrective action at the source.

If controlled properly, similar events that we have been involved with on Streatham Common, the Olympic Park, Trent Park and those such as Junction 2 have all ran for many years without undue concern. However,

what we do require is appropriate limits and a target level of 75dB and low frequency limits of 75dB at 2Km in accordance with the Guidance offered in the former Pop Code would make this event viable. What we do commit to is a post event review, to learn and develop for future years and assist the Council is setting appropriate limits moving forward based on live data and control. It would also appear that the revision to the current Code (by the CIEH) is in fact looking to increase levels to 75dB across the board for urban areas.

I trust that this helps. Any queries then please do

Regards

Simon Joynes



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