

GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE



To: Manchester City Council  
Licensing Unit  
Town Hall Extension

To: [Redacted]

27<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Please accept this letter as formal notification that Greater Manchester Police wish to object, under Section 104(2) of the Licensing Act 2003, to the **TEMPORARY EVENT NOTICE** detailed below, as we are satisfied that granting the application under these circumstances would undermine the Prevention of Crime and Disorder and the Prevention of Public Nuisance Objectives.

<b>PREMISES NAME:</b>	<b>Didsbury Sports Ground</b>
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	Ford Lane Manchester M20 2RU
<b>DATE OF EVENT:</b>	24/05/24 - 26/05/2024
<b>TIME OF EVENT:</b>	1700 – 2300, 1200 – 2300 & 1200 - 2000 hrs

Greater Manchester Police have assessed this TEN submission, and the likely impact of it taking place, and we have serious concerns that the licensing objectives will be undermined should the event go ahead.

Specifically, our concerns are:

For an event which has such a potential for disruption to local residents it is concerning that there has been no prior consultation with local residents, local councillors or any of the responsible authorities.

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The calibre of the artists who are scheduled to perform at the event is likely to generate huge interest amongst music lovers and it is a real concern that far greater numbers than 499 will descend upon the event once the word spreads. This will then most likely result in calls being made to GMP from both the organisers and local residents.

The policy document states that there will be 5 SIA security staff on duty but makes no mention of where they will specifically be deployed, or what their roles will be. It also states that there will be additional stewarding but does not elaborate on this so again it is unclear as to how many there will be or what their specific deployments will be.

The policy states that the event will be pedestrian only and there will be no vehicular access for attendees (other than trades people). It goes on to say that the organisers expect the event to be attended by local people who will walk to the event or use public transport, but this cannot be known and there is a real possibility that large numbers of attendees will drive to the event. There is nothing anywhere within the TEN or the supporting policy which addresses where people can park their cars in a manner which will not impact on the local residents.

It states that stewards will be deployed at the junction of Ford Lane and Fordbank Road, to challenge vehicles attempting to drive to the site, informing them of the walk up policy and asking drivers to 'please turn left/right to exit the estate at the main road' but it makes no mention of what they will tell the drivers to do with their vehicles which is likely to result in absolute chaos.

The policy document states that the organisers will develop and maintain a Noise Management Plan to enforce decibel limits from sources of amplified noise, i.e., stage but this Noise management Plan has not been shared so its effectiveness and robustness cannot be ascertained.

In relation to dispersal the policy states that the organisers will effectively communicate with patrons to ask them to please respect local residents, and leave site in an orderly manner, displaying clear signage to that effect.

Guests will be communicated with pre-event to explain that anybody seeking taxi collection, should order this to a safe area of the A5145, walking out from the site and into the high street to be collected.

Whilst this is a welcome message to convey to attendees, there is nothing contained within the policy to show how this will be enforced or regulated by the security and stewards and, with the best will in the world, expecting people who have been consuming alcohol for several hours and watching live music to talk quietly when leaving the event is wishful thinking the request is likely to be ignored.

Regarding toilet provision, we are told that there will be no portaloos available on site, the audience will instead use toilets available in the clubhouse, but it doesn't state how many toilets there are in the clubhouse and, if this provision isn't sufficient, or long queues form, then this will inevitably lead to public urination.

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Within the policy it states that full event safety risk assessments will be performed by the organising team ahead of the event and can be provided to the council at request. GMP would have expected these risk assessments to have been done prior to the TEN being submitted and prior to the sale of tickets and that these risk assessments would have been included within the documents submitted in support of the event.

In relation to the issues of littering the policy states the organisers will ensure that bins are clearly accessible at both interior and exterior exit points, with guests challenged to dispose of litter in their hands before leaving but it doesn't expand on this. Therefore, if people choose not to use the bins provided and subsequently dispose of their litter in residents' gardens or on the street, there is nothing to show what action will be taken by the organisers to address this.

In summary this TEN is extremely likely to adversely impact on the quality of life of persons who live in the area of the premises due to noise, littering and other anti-social behaviour. It will potentially attract greater numbers than anticipated and is likely to result in traffic chaos in the area.

A local councillor and local residents have already made contact with GMP and Manchester City council to express their concerns regarding this event taking place.

Therefore, Greater Manchester Police ask that this TEN is refused and a counter notice is served.

Signed:.....PC 17659 Isherwood..... (rank/pin/name)

Date/Time 27/03/24.....0800 hrs



**Licensing & Out of Hours Compliance Team - Representation**

Name	Mr Sion Roberts
Job Title	Neighbourhood Compliance Officer
Department	Licensing and Out of Hours Compliance Team
Address	Level 1, Town Hall Extension, Manchester, M60 2LA
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**Premise Details**

Application Ref No	REF 299246
Name of Premises	Didsbury Sports Ground
Address	Ford Lane, Manchester, M20 2RU

**Representation**

Outline your representation regarding the above application below. This representation should describe the likely effect of the grant of the licence/certificate on the licensing objectives and on the vicinity of the premises.

Licensing & Out of Hours Compliance Team (LOOHT) as the responsible authority have assessed the likely impact of the grant of this Temporary Event Notice application taking into account a number of factors, including the nature of the area in which the premises is located and the proximity to residential accommodation, the hours applied for, and any potential risk that the grant of this application could lead to issues of public nuisance and public safety.

**Event Details**

Premises name: Didsbury Sports Ground

Premises address: Ford Lane, Manchester, M20 2RU

Dates: 24 May 2024 to 26 May 2024

Times: Fri 5pm to 11pm, Sat 12 noon to 11pm, Sun 12 noon to 8pm

LOOH team have assessed the above application and associated operating schedule submitted by the applicant.

From the information provided the event appears to be of a similar nature to the recently refused licence variation application REF 286663. Albeit with reduced maximum numbers attending.

The event is over the 3 May Day Bank Holiday and will have a potential 499 max attendees including staff for each day/night. It is unclear from the application if non event attendees will continue to be able to use part the existing licensed premises not subject to the terms of the TEN.

The already advertised tickets for the Saturday and Sunday portion of the three-day event have options for day only and separate night. It is unclear how this will be managed on site with removal of non-night-time tickets holders hence accurate records of numbers on site.

Operating Schedule submitted states,  
Friday 24th - 5pm to 10pm outdoors under TEN, then 10pm onwards  
indoors under PREM 154908

Saturday 25th - 12pm to 10pm outdoors under TEN, then 10pm onwards  
indoors under PREM 154908

Sunday 26th - 1pm to 8pm outdoors under TEN, then 8pm onwards indoors  
under PREM 154908

It's unclear from the application how numbers will be monitored /controlled moving from the TEN area into the Licensed Premises after 22:00. The maximum capacity of the licensed premise has not been provided.

This does raise concerns in the upholding of the public safety and public nuisance licensing objectives.

Following on from the above as the licenced premises PREM 154908 has the following hours open to public there is the potential for all TEN attendees to remain on site until this terminal hour, albeit inside the premises. If this is the case LOOH has concerns of the potential for noise nuisance from dispersal of these numbers of attendees, at this later time.

In addition, there are also concerns that the premises will not be able control noise outbreak (music and people noise) from the egress and ingress potentially breaching its existing licence conditions due larger numbers (TEN attendees) inside the licenced premises, taking smoking breaks etc onto the patio area.

Fri	Sat	Sun
0800	0800	0800
0100	0100	0030

IN respect to the TEN application, the applicant has stated they are restricting the music levels to that not exceeding 65dba. It's unclear where this level will be assessed from either on or off site and their locations.

The style and genre of the music that the acts/DJs are playing are in their character bass heavy, this low frequency noise can result in increased disturbance to local residents.

The nearest residential properties are only 70 meters way, in an elevated position from the proposed stage area. Even if music are levels controlled, it will be still likely heard in the resident's garden at a minimum. This would be potentially for 3 days duration. The numbers of up to 499 patrons to the front of the stage, outdoor bar and food court area would create people noise that couldn't be controlled and as such likely to be heard from gardens at a minimum and potentially inside properties if windows open.

Whilst the operating schedule has stated attendees will be pre informed to book taxis at safe areas off A5145. It is a concern that during dispersal attendees will be booking or have already booked taxis that could be reasonably assumed will attempt to pick up their fare as close as possible to the venue. If stewards are preventing access for non-residents as suggested there is still high chance of noise nuisance for residents, congestion, and public safety issues at these pinch points, potentially lasting for several hours after the event has finished.

Also the operating schedule states attendees leaving will be challenged leaving if holding litter, this may prove impractical if large numbers are leaving at once, leading to litter nuisance away from the venue along residential streets of Ford Lane and Ford bank road. Litter potentially ending up on public highways and or in residential hedges/gardens. There is no information on the operating schedule in respect to managing this potential public nuisance.

Also, of concern for the LOOH team due to non-availability of public toilets after leaving the venue, attendees on foot, potentially intoxicated from a day/evening of drinking would be required to walk to Wilmslow Road before being able to access toilets possibly only available in a licensed premises at that time. The outcome could be public urination, along residential streets of Ford Lane and Ford bank Road.

A local councillor and local residents have already made contact with Greater Manchester Police and Manchester City council to express their concerns regarding this event taking place.

Despite the information provided in the operating schedule LOOH feels that the Temporary Event if approved would subject local residents to three days/evenings of unnecessary prolonged noise nuisance interfering with their enjoyment of their properties including gardens and immediate local area, thus undermining the Licensing objectives in relation to Public Nuisance and Public Safety.

Therefore, LOOH ask that this TEN is refused and a counter notice is served.

Recommendation:	Refuse Application
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