

Report for: Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 19 October 2015

Item number: 14

Title: Finsbury Park Events Scrutiny Project

Report authorised by: Cllr Charles Wright, Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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Ward(s) affected: Harringay Ward; Stroud Green Ward

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:** N/A

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 Under the agreed terms of reference, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) can assist the Council and the Cabinet in its budgetary and policy framework through conducting in-depth analysis of local policy issues and can make recommendations for service development or improvement. The Committee may:
- (a) Review the performance of the Council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas;
 - (b) Conduct research to assist in specific investigations. This may involve surveys, focus groups, public meetings and/or site visits;
 - (c) Make reports and recommendations, on issues affecting the authority's area, or its inhabitants, to Full Council, its Committees or Sub-Committees, the Executive, or to other appropriate external bodies.
- 1.2 In this context the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, on 27 July 2015, agreed to set up a review to reflect on and understand the impact of recent large events that have taken place in Finsbury Park, such as the Wireless Festival. Further information about the scope of the review is outlined in paragraph 6 and **Appendix 1a**.
- 1.3 The final report, attached at **Appendix 1** details the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

N/A

3. Recommendations

3.1 That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- (a) Agree the Finsbury Park Events Scrutiny Project final report, attached at **Appendix 1**; and
- (b) Agree the recommendations contained in the final report set out at **Appendix 2**, for recommendation to Cabinet.

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1 Haringey Council's Outdoor Events Policy came into effect in 2014, with subsequent large scale events taking place in Finsbury Park. The Finsbury Park Events Scrutiny Project was set up to reflect on, learn lessons from, and understand the impact of these events.
- 4.2 One of the main reasons for carrying out this review was in response to public order concerns, particularly around attempts to break in to the site relating to the Wireless Festival in July 2015. The recommendations contained in this report address these concerns. In addition the recommendations address issues in relation to noise, complaint management, communication, stakeholder engagement and look at how adverse effects can be further mitigated.

5. Alternative options considered

- 5.1 Evidence for this review was gathered in a variety of ways. This included interviews with witnesses, site visits and consideration of written evidence, including analysis of an online survey. This approach is outlined in more detail below (par 6.2 – 6.3) and in section 7 of the main report (**Appendix 1**). Alternative options were not considered as this approach enabled the Committee to address the terms of reference set for the project.

6. Background information

6.1 The Terms of Reference for the project were:

- (a) To understand the impact of recent events held in Finsbury Park to gain a greater understanding of the budget context for parks – including the income and where this money is spent – and how this is balanced against the impact on local people and businesses.
- (b) To consider the position of Finsbury Park as a major London park contributing to city-wide events.
- (c) To reflect on recent large events that have taken place in Finsbury Park, with particular focus on the following:

- Planning and organisation
- Facilities
- Policing, security and crowd control
- Noise and complaints
- Transport, ingress and egress
- Damage and arrangements for remediation; and
- Community engagement

(d) In light of the above, to make recommendations to the Council and its partners for improvements in the arrangements for future events that are consistent with the aims and objectives of Haringey's Outdoor Events Policy and that seek to minimise any potential adverse effects on the park.

6.2 During August and September 2015 the Committee went on site visits and gathered evidence from a range of stakeholders, including: Members of the Finsbury Park Events Stakeholder Group; the Safety Advisory Group (SAG); Transport for London; event promoters; and Ward Councillors and Officers from Haringey, Hackney and Islington. A list of witnesses interviewed as part of the review can be found at **Appendix 1b**.

6.3 In addition, the Committee launched a "Call for Evidence" on 28 July 2015 to encourage written submissions from the public, organisations, businesses and other interested parties. This was open until 28 August 2015. The responses reflect the themes outlined below (par 6.4) and a full analysis of the survey can be found at **Appendix 1c**.

6.4 A number of themes emerged from the Committee's project work, especillay concerning the need to increase transparency around income raised from events, and how it is spent, stakeholder engagement, compliant management, communication, and looking at how adverse effects can be further mitigated. These are outlined in more detail in sections 8 – 17 of the main report (**Appendix 1**).

7. Contribution to strategic outcomes

7.1 In agreeing a tight and focused scope, consideration was given to how this scrutiny review could contribute to strategic outcomes.

7.2 The recommendations outlined in the main body of the report will, if taken forward, contribute to policy and practice primarily in relation to Priority 3 of the Corporate Plan – "*A clean, well maintained and safe borough where people are proud to live and work*". In addition, there are links to the Corporate Plan in relation to:

- Priority 1 – “Enable every child and young person to have the best start in life...”
- Priority 2 – “Enable all adults to live healthy, long and fulfilling lives”
- Priority 4 – “Drive growth and employment from which everyone can benefit”

7.3 The section on tobacco also provides links to Key Priority 2 of Haringey’s Health and Wellbeing Strategy in “increasing healthy life expectancy.

8. Statutory Officers Comments

Finance

- 8.1 The costs of undertaking this scrutiny review have been contained within existing budgets.
- 8.2 It is expected that the majority of recommendations could be enacted with minimal financial impact to the Council, however before Cabinet could agree to implement the recommendations it will be necessary to ensure that the cost of doing so is known and budgeted for. Therefore if there is a budgetary impact of recommendations such as limiting the size, nature or timing of events or providing a discount scheme for local residents, then funding will need to be identified before the recommendation could be agreed.

Legal

- 8.3 Under Section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000 (“LGA”), the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the power to make reports or recommendations to Cabinet on matters which affect the Council’s area or the inhabitant of its area. Reports and recommendations will be presented to the next available Cabinet meeting together with an officer report where appropriate.
- 8.4 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee must by notice in writing require Cabinet to consider the report and recommendations and under Section 9FE of the LGA, there is a duty on Cabinet to respond to the Report, indicating what (if any) action Cabinet, proposes to take, within 2 months of receiving the report and recommendations.

Equality

- 8.5 The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:
- Tackle discrimination and victimisation of persons that share the characteristics protected under S4 of the Act. These include the characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation;

- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

- 8.6 Haringey's Outdoor Events Policy was agreed by Cabinet in December 2013. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes that an equality screening tool was completed in regard to the proposed policy and that the proposal had no impact on protected characteristics other than religion or belief.
- 8.7 As outlined in the main body of the report (**Appendix 1**) the Outdoor Events Policy retains provision that organisations professing a religion or a belief can hire the park like any other group, but they cannot book the park primarily for an act of worship. Whilst this could have the effect of discouraging religious or belief organisations from using the park primarily for an act of worship such as praying, such events could by their nature exclude others from attending the events or using the park more generally. Further, the policy does permit acts of workshop where incidental to the overall event, for example a convention.
- 8.8 Park users, in particular groups booking parks for events, are not monitored by protected characteristics. However, there was no evidence put forward during the review to suggest particular groups had experienced any disproportionate impact as a result of events taking place in Finsbury Park. In addition, and as outlined in the main report (**Appendix 1**) the Outdoor Events Policy aims to promote all events as inclusive to the whole community. For example, events for Friends groups are free while charges to community groups have been reduced.
- 8.9 To support this, a number of recommendations have been put forward to help foster good relations, by promoting understanding between people from different groups, by developing a mixed and diverse range of events for Finsbury Park, and by identifying opportunities that help advance equality of opportunity.

9. Use of Appendices

Appendix 1 – Finsbury Park Events Scrutiny Project Final Report

Appendix 1a – Project Scoping Document

Appendix 1b – Review contributors

Appendix 1c – Analysis of survey responses

Appendix 2 – Recommendations

10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 Haringey Outdoor Events Policy (2014)

- 10.2 External web links have been provided in the main body of the report. Haringey Council is not responsible for the contents or reliability of linked websites and does not necessarily endorse any views expressed within them. Listings should not be taken as an endorsement of any kind. It is your responsibility to check the terms and conditions of any other web sites you may visit. We cannot guarantee that these links will work all of the time and we have no control over the availability of the linked pages.

APPENDIX 1

FINSBURY PARK EVENTS SCRUTINY PROJECT

A PROJECT BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

October 2015

Councillors	Statutory Co-optees
Cllr Charles Wright (Chair)	Luke Collier (School Governor Rep)
Cllr Pippa Connor	Kafale Taye (School Governor Reps)
Cllr Kirsten Hearn	Chukwyemeka Ekeowa (Church Rep)
Cllr Eugene Akwasi-Ayisi,	Yvonne Denny (Church Rep)
Cllr Adam Jogee	

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CHAIR'S FOREWORD

Haringey Council's Outdoor Events Policy came into effect in 2014, with subsequent large events taking place in Finsbury Park.

The scale of these events brings inevitable disruption in the area, for residents not only in Haringey but also in Hackney and Islington. At the same time they bring substantial income, which under the policy is entirely ringfenced to the overall Haringey parks budget.

It is in this context that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been looking at the Outdoor Events policy and its implementation, looking at the extent to which the significant adverse effects have been, and can be further mitigated.

It is right that the policy is put under scrutiny, and is treated as a work in progress. Income does not trump other concerns regardless, though in current circumstances the opportunity to bring a significant income stream to parks which are an important and valued community asset cannot be underestimated. Public authorities should always keep their policies, and the impact of their policies, under review, and seek to improve them.

Our view is that the management of the large events continues to improve, with better coordination between the various agencies involved and a willingness on the part of event organisers to engage positively and address issues. So there continue to be opportunities to mitigate the impact of large events, and these should be pursued. We also make some recommendations on the timing of large events.

At the same time, there is a need for more transparency around the income raised from events in parks, and how it is spent, as well as a wider opportunity for more engagement, by local councillors and residents, in spending decisions. The parks and their users, including Finsbury Park, can only benefit from positive engagement by residents, Friends groups and others.

In respect of the large events themselves work needs to be done on communication, on complaint management, and on stakeholder engagement. The stakeholder group where residents, businesses and other interested parties come together to look at arrangements for the large events was originally an initiative suggested by Scrutiny, and we make various recommendations to ensure that it remains a useful body.

I hope all those involved with Finsbury Park will look carefully at our recommendations and seek to move forward positively.

Finally, my thanks to all who took time to give evidence to the committee, including residents, Friends of Finsbury Park and other community organisations, officers and councillors from Haringey, Islington and Hackney, police, ambulance, fire and transport officers, event organisers, and all those who responded to the online questionnaire.

Cllr Charles Wright
Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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INTRODUCTION

1. Background to the Project

1.1 Under the agreed terms of reference, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) can assist the Council and the Cabinet in its budgetary and policy framework through conducting in-depth analysis of local policy issues and can make recommendations for service development or improvement.

1.2 The Committee may:

- Review the performance of the Council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas;
- Conduct research to assist in specific investigations. This may involve surveys, focus groups, public meetings and/or site visits;
- Make reports and recommendations, on any issue affecting the authority's area or its inhabitants, to Full Council, its Committees or Sub-Committee, the Executive, or to other appropriate external bodies.

1.3 In this context, on 27 July 2015, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to set up a review to reflect on and understand the impact of recent large events that have taken place in Finsbury Park, such as the Wireless Festival. The terms of reference for the project were:

- To understand the impact of recent events held in Finsbury Park to gain a greater understanding of the budget contexts for parks – including income and where this money is spent – and how this is balanced against the impact of local people and businesses.
- To consider the position of Finsbury Park as a major London park contributing to city-wide events.
- To reflect on recent large events that have taken place in Finsbury Park, with particular focus on the following:
 - Planning and organisation
 - Facilities
 - Policing, security and crowd control
 - Noise and complaints
 - Transport, ingress and egress
 - Damage and arrangements for remediation
 - Community engagement
- In view of the above, to make recommendations to the Council and its partners for improvements in the arrangements for future events that are consistent with the aims and objectives of Haringey's Outdoor Events Policy and that seek to minimise any potential adverse effects on the park.

1.4 Further information about the scope of the review is outlined in **Appendix 1a**.

POLICY CONTEXT

2. Haringey's Outdoor Events Policy

2.1 Finsbury Park has been hosting events for over 50 years. Over this time events have been a mixture of both community and commercial.

2.2 In an average year 60-100 events will be held in parks across Haringey with the vast majority being community or charity based.

2.3 As part of the Heritage Lottery Fund process for the restoration of Finsbury Park it was agreed that the increased maintenance costs (£250,000 – per year) should be funded by hosting five music events per year. However, during the 10 year period prior to the 2013 policy review, income targets had not been delivered in any single year. As a result, a full review of the policy was undertaken including consultation with residents in Haringey, Hackney and Islington.

2.4 Following significant research from both neighbouring boroughs and also comparator parks such as: Victoria Park; Clapham Common; Hyde Park and Queen Elizabeth II Park, Haringey's Outdoor Events Policy (2014) introduced a number of important policy changes. This means:

- The policy now applies to all parks not just Finsbury Park
- Major events in Finsbury Park can now last a maximum of 3 days
- Summer holidays are excluded from any major event booking period
- Events can be on successive weekends if this is to the benefit of the park / users
- Events for Friends groups are free with charges to community groups reduced
- Charges to commercial organisations have increased
- The introduction of a small grants scheme and training provided to community groups to increase the number of community events
- All income from events is ring fenced back to the parks budget

3. Hiring Finsbury Park

3.1 The process for hiring the park is separate from the premises licence. No licence can be put to use unless the holder of the licence has the permission from the Parks Service to book the park in the first instance. The course of action that a promoter has to undertake with the Parks Service, together with an overview of the licensing process for large scale events in Finsbury Park, is outlined below.

3.2 Major events are currently planned 9-10 months in advance while smaller events can be organised six weeks prior. All bookings are made via the online EventApp system with the park having a core of repeat bookings including funfairs, cancer research events, cycling events, and other fun runs. Despite this, many enquiries do not result in events taking place due to date availability or the speculative nature of

the enquiry. To help deal with this, discussions are held with event organisers concerning the nature of the event, dates and costs. Once these are agreed, and a formal application is made, this is forwarded to stakeholders for their comments.

3.3 If a proposed event should meet any of the criteria set out below then authority is sought from the Cabinet Member for Environment prior to giving an in principle agreement:

- Expected attendance is over 10,000
- Event lasts more than 7 days
- Event lasts more than 2 days with 5,000 or more in attendance
- Organiser occupies a site for more than 14 days including setup and take down periods
- Additional major scale events where there is demonstrable community support

3.4 The council will refuse events if (a) they are not compliant with the general conditions of hire; (b) applications promote political or controversial issues; or (c) events are entirely acts of religious worship. Further reasons for refusal may include:

- Any event which is likely to have an unacceptable impact on the infrastructure and biodiversity of the selected site.
- Any event which does not provide adequate documentation or certification and cannot demonstrate that it should progress to the next stage of the application process.
- Any event which is not able to demonstrate to Safety Advisory Group members that it can be delivered in a safe and robust manner.
- Any event which discriminates against any individual or group on the grounds of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability. This aspect will specifically include any charity, community or commercial ticketed event where any of the above groups or individuals are excluded or refused entrance.
- Any circus that includes performing animals other than equine , dogs and bird (budgerigars) acts

In addition, the Council reserves the right to refuse any application and the right to impose additional conditions regarding a booking.

3.5 Information concerning completed events, and future bookings, for 2015 can be found in table 1.

Table 1 – Events in Finsbury Park 2015

Event	Date	Type	Numbers	Status
Islington Schools Cross Country Championships	23 Jan	Sporting	120	Completed
Sense Marathon Training Day	21 Feb	Sporting	80	Completed
Inter-borough Challenge	1 Mar	Sporting	200	Completed
NewRoz 2015 (Kurdish New Year Festival)	22 Mar	Community, National Celebration	5,000	Completed
Family Funfair	28 Mar – 12 Apr	Family Funfair	2,000	Completed
Zippos Circus	23 – 28 Apr	Circus	500	Completed
Finsbury Park 10K	10 May	Community, Sporting	200	Completed
Holloway S.D.A Health Ministries Department	17 May	Community	10	Completed
Family Funfair	23 – 31 May	Family Funfair	2,000	Completed
Women's Running 10km Series 2015	7 Jun	Sporting, Commercial Charity	300	Completed
Finsbury Park Festival of Cycling	14 Jun	Community, Sporting	499	Completed
London Parks Orienteering	18 Jun	Sporting	120	Completed
Wireless 10	28 Jun	Music Festival	45,000	Completed
Wireless Festival	3 – 5 Jul	Music Festival	45,000	Completed
Charity Sponsored Walk	19 Jul	Sponsored walk	30	Completed
Race for Life – Pretty Muddy	25 Jul	Sporting	3,000	Completed
Family Funfair	20 Aug – 1 Sept	Family Funfair	2,000	Completed
Ceremony	12 Sept	Music Festival	13,000	Completed
United	13 Sept	Music Festival	13,000	Completed
The Great British Cake Sale	12-13 Sept	Community	50	Completed
RSPB Information Stand	25 Sept	Charity Information	499	Completed

Event	Date	Type	Numbers	Status
Women's Running 10km Series	27 Sept	Sporting, Commercial Charity	500	Completed
Resolution Run	25 Oct	Sporting	500	Booking Confirmed
The Christmas Forest	25 Nov – 23 Dec	Commercial / Charity Event (Retail)	10	Booking Confirmed

In addition approximately 40 events have taken place in 15 other parks across Haringey; including 3 funfairs with the rest being classified as “community” events.

4. Managing the Event

- 4.1 Once events are agreed, parks officers work in conjunction with the organisers and licensing officers to ensure the event is managed in a safe way. This includes managing the various competing needs and opinions of stakeholders.
- 4.2 Before coming on site the organiser will meet with officers on numerous occasions to discuss the event planning and in particular the setup and take down periods. A pre site inspection is undertaken with the organisers to ensure they understand the location and also the condition prior to coming on site.
- 4.3 Regular visits are made during the setup, and on the day of the event it may either be visited by the duty officer or have an officer / officers in attendance throughout. Post event the take down is monitored and then a post site inspection takes place and any damage is noted. The cost of any damage is taken from the ground deposit and if it exceeds the ground deposit the organiser is invoiced for the difference.

5. Licensing of Events in Finsbury Park

- 5.1 In terms of the licensing of events in Finsbury Park, the Licensing Act 2003 covers licensable activity in relation to the sale of alcohol, regulated entertainment and late night refreshment. There are two types of licence that can be applied for, outlined in table 2, and all of these matters are underpinned / determined by the four licensing objectives being met.

Table 2:

Type of License	Comments	Examples
Temporary Event Notice	One off events for up to 499 people	A community event wanting to sell alcohol or provide regulated entertainment
Premises Licence	Indefinite licence for businesses wishing to offer licensable activity. Large events are carried out under these. Can be time limited for large events	Festival Republic – capacity 39,999 SJM Concerts – capacity 49,999 Live Nation – capacity 49,999

5.2 The various stages of the licensing process are outlined below:

- Application form submitted to local authority and responsible authorities
- Notices - placed around the park fencing / notice in newspaper / on council website and sent to Members
- 28 day consultation period
- Applicant offers a raft of conditions in the Operating Schedule – this demonstrates how they will promote the four licensing objectives.
- Responsible authorities submit representations during 28 days consultation as do residents
- If representations outstanding at the end of 28 days a hearing of the Licensing Sub Committee is convened to determine the matter

5.3 Once agreed, licenses are “overseen” by the various agencies through the conditions set within them, the Event Management Plan as well as the Event Safety Advisory Group. A summary is provided below.

Event Management Plans

5.4 Each promoter submits an Event Management Plan as part of the licensing process. This is to enable the responsible authorities to assess the plans that are being put in place for a particular event and to make recommendations as to what they want the promoter to do to promote the licensing objectives.

5.5 Event Management Plans are working documents that are kept under revision until 28 days before the event and provide information on a wide range of issues, including:

- Details of areas of responsibility and contact details
- Risk assessments

- Alcohol consumption and drugs policy – including how they avoid underage alcohol sales
- Traffic management – including any temporary traffic orders
- Stewards
- Security – site and personnel, entry policies for age restricted events
- Access routes for emergency vehicles in and out of the site
- Evacuation plan – in the event of an emergency
- Noise management
- Food hygiene
- Health and safety
- First aid
- Fire safety
- Crowd safety management
- Infrastructure

Conditions on licences

5.6 The conditions on licenses reflect the matters covered in the Operating Schedule and the Event Management Plan. As a result, conditions on licences will include:

- The times of operation for licensable activity
- The authorised designated premises supervisor on licence
- Crowd management requirements – ingress/egress
- Stewarding provision
- Medical provision
- Means of escape
- Structural information
- Noise management
- Waste management
- Sanitary requirements

- Any special effects to be used

Safety Advisory Group

- 5.7 The role of the Safety Advisory Group (SAG) is separate from the operational management of the event. The SAG works in an advisory capacity and provides independent advice to event organisers, who retain the legal responsibility for ensuring a safe event. Representatives from the following organisations/teams, sit on the SAG: the Licensing Authority, Metropolitan Police, Fire Authority, London Ambulance Service, Highways representatives from Haringey, Hackney and Islington, Transport for London (Roads/Buses/Trains/Tubes/Taxis), Noise Team, Food Team, Building Control, the British Transport Police, and the promoter. In addition to the main SAG, sub groups are set up to discuss specific matters.
- 5.8 The purpose of the SAG is to assist the local authority and other key partners in exercising safety and other public protection functions. As noted above, the responsibility for the management of the event remains with the event organiser so the SAG works closely with event management teams. By working in partnership the SAG ensures a consistent and co-ordinated process is created to oversee and enhance public safety. In addition, SAGs: (a) provide advice on minimising any inconvenience to local residents, businesses and the general public; (b) focus resources using risk assessment and facilitating proportionate advice and regulation; (c) support businesses and organisers through having a single point of contact for the event, and by providing advice and support; and (d) ensure good practice / learning points are shared.

6. Finsbury Park Events Stakeholder Group

- 6.1 In addition to the SAG, and following the introduction of the new Outdoor Events Policy, a Stakeholder Group was established in 2014 to help implement the Council's policy within Finsbury Park. Membership of the Group includes elected councillors and council officers from Haringey, Hackney and Islington, residents, traders and police. Further information about the aims and objectives, and work carried out by the Stakeholder Group, can be found in section 10 below.

EVIDENCE GATHERING AND FINDINGS

7. Evidence Gathering

- 7.1 In order to gain a greater understanding of how recent events in Finsbury Park were conducted and managed in practice the Committee agreed it was important to gather evidence from a wide range of stakeholders, including residents, park visitors, local businesses, the responsible authorities, neighbouring boroughs, and event promoters.
- 7.2 During the investigation the Committee held 10 evidence gathering sessions and interviewed 37 witnesses. This included Members of the Finsbury Park Events Stakeholder Group; the Safety Advisory Group (SAG); event promoters; Council Officers and Ward Councillors from Haringey, Hackney and Islington. A full list of the witnesses interviewed as part of the review can be found at **Appendix 1b**.
- 7.3 To facilitate public involvement the Committee launched a “Call for Evidence” on 28 July 2015 to encourage written submissions from local residents, local organisations and businesses and other interested parties. This was open until 28 August 2015 with 222 completed responses received. In total, 775 individual qualitative responses were submitted to the various survey questions. An analysis of survey responses can be found at **Appendix 1c**.
- 7.4 Written responses were also received from: Members of the public; Councillor Clive Carter; Jeremy Corbyn MP; David Lammy MP; Catherine West MP; Action on Smoking and Health (ASH); Haringey’s Public Health Team; and Transport for London.
- 7.5 In addition, during August and September, the Committee carried out a number of site visits to the Park. This included observing the set up for the Ceremony and United events on Thursday 10 September, attending Ceremony on Saturday 12 September to observe people arriving at the event, and attending United on Sunday 13 September to observe the egress.

8. Findings

- 8.1 The sections below summarise findings and recommendations from the Committee’s evidence gathering.
- 8.2 Several common themes emerged, especially concerning the need to increase transparency around income raised from events, and how it is spent, stakeholder engagement, complaint management, communication, and looking at how adverse effects can be further mitigated.

9. Income Generation

9.1 As noted earlier in this report, income from events is ring fenced back to the parks budget and the cost of any damage is taken from the ground deposit (paid by the event organisers).

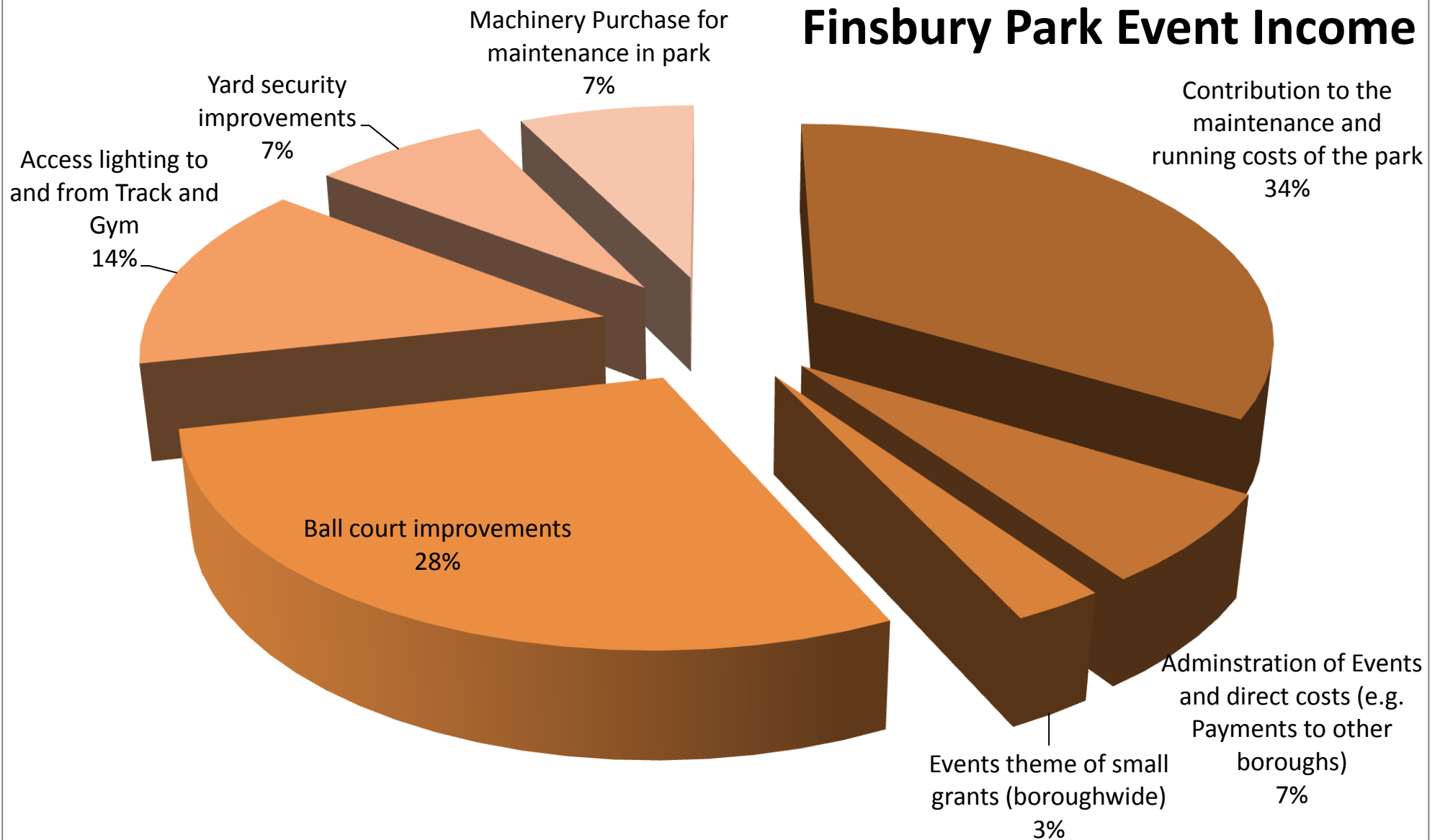
9.2 Section 8.2 of Haringey's Outdoor Events Policy states:

<i>8.2.1. Income generated from events in parks and open spaces will be used in the first instance to meet the parks event income target in each year.</i>
<i>8.2.2. The application and booking fees will be utilised to fund the staffing costs of the booking and event management process.</i>
<i>8.2.3. Surplus income will initially be used to support and develop community led festivals and events in parks across the borough. Part of the money will be used to fund training opportunities for community event organisers to help increase the number of people and the skill level of those working voluntarily within local community organisations to put on events. The funding will be administered in conjunction with the existing Parks Small Grant Scheme.</i>
<i>8.2.4. Any additional income generated will be ring fenced to be reinvested back into parks maintenance across the borough. Where significant sums of money are generated in individual parks the investment needs of that park will be addressed first before redistributing the remainder of any funds to other parks.</i>
<i>8.2.5. In terms of Finsbury Park, surplus event income generated will be used to address the following priorities – cleanliness, toilets; quality of flowers and shrubs; diversity of wildlife; litter bins; cafes; sports facilities; dog control; lighting; seating.</i>
<i>8.2.6. The environmental impact charge will be kept separate from other income received and will be utilised to address the immediate priorities for funding identified by the Friends of the park in which the money was generated.</i>

9.3 A breakdown of the income generated from Finsbury Park Events, for 2015/16, and how it is spent is outlined below. The base income target from events is £295,000, of which £255,000 comes from Finsbury Park, the remaining £40,000 comes from other events and sports bookings.

Income from Finsbury Park Events 2015/16 (Wireless 10 and main Wireless Event; Fairs, Circus, and other small event bookings; Ceremony and United Events; the Christmas Forest)	£755,000
Contribution to the maintenance and running costs of the park	£255,000
Administration of Events and direct costs (e.g. Payments to other boroughs)	£50,000
Events theme of small grants (boroughwide)	£20,000
Ball court improvements	£215,000
Access lighting to and from Track and Gym	£105,000
Yard security improvements	£55,000
Machinery Purchase for maintenance in park	£55,000

Finsbury Park Event Income



9.4 Despite this, during the review it became clear there was limited knowledge amongst the public, and indeed some stakeholders, concerning how money generated from Finsbury Park events is used. As a result, the Committee believe this lack of information may hinder a full assessment of whether the benefits of events justify the inevitable disruption.

9.5 Some of the comments received via the online survey are noted below:

"It should be made clear to all about how much money is raised from each event, and how that money will be spent – in particular, how much will be spent making the park a nicer place to be – and how much will be spent on clearing up."
(Haringey resident)

"Make the accounts for such events public and transparent – how much of the money from Wireless went to restoring the damage in the park and improving facilities." (Islington resident)

"There may be greater acceptance of the use of the park for the various events if it was clear that all money generated was reinvested into the park. If the events are simply a revenue generating exercise for the council in general, then I do not believe the disruption and reduced access in anyway are justifiable." (Islington resident)

"If there was any evidence that the cost of these events did not fall on council costs the people may be more convinced. However there is no evidence that the Council obtains a commercial income or has a contract that requires the events to fix their damage or that income is reinvested back into the park." (Haringey resident)

"MOST importantly, the income from these huge events MUST be put back into our park, it doesn't seem to be at the moment and the park is suffering badly for it." (Haringey resident)

"Money from the events should be used to make improvements and these should be advertised so that local residents can better understand what the benefits are." (Haringey resident)

9.6 Similar issues were raised by various stakeholders during evidence gathering sessions, including:

- Feedback suggested residents were generally pleased when they were told money from events was ring fenced to parks.
- The economic benefits of the event should be clearly outlined to residents, possibly via newsletter or on notice-boards in the park(s).
- The Council's consultation with residents, prior to events taking place, would benefit by clearly stating the financial benefits.
- It would be useful to show the breadth and depth of investment from events to demonstrate all parks in Haringey benefit from the additional revenue.
- Some representatives were unaware that residents could suggest or request certain improvements to their local park.

- Concerns were raised about the costs associated with repairs when damage was caused to the park as a result of events. Some stakeholders were unaware that such repairs were paid for by the event promoter (the ground deposit) rather than by the council.

9.7 With this in mind, the Committee hope the recommendations below will be prioritised to ensure greater transparency and understanding about how income from events is used.

Recommendation 1

The Cabinet Member for Environment is recommended to work with the Council's Communications Team to develop a communication plan providing stakeholders, in Haringey, Hackney and Islington, with greater transparency about how income from events held in Finsbury Park is used. This should include circulating information at the end of September, the end of the event season*, to:

- (a) Confirm how much money is generated from events held in Finsbury Park;
- (b) Make clear that all income from events is ring fenced back to the parks budget;
- (c) Identify how local residents, businesses and ward councillors can contribute to decisions on how income from events is spent, including work in other local parks;
- (d) Provide information on how money from previous years has been spent, including updates on projects and improvements.

(*In view of the timing of this scrutiny report, for 2015, it is recommended that this information is shared with local stakeholders as quickly as possible.)

Recommendation 2

The Head of Direct Services is recommended to develop a Frequently Asked Questions document for Finsbury Park Events. This should be made available online via the Council's website <http://www.haringey.gov.uk/finsbury-park> by the end of December 2015 with consideration given to how this information could be used to develop the communication plan (recommendation 1 above).

10. Stakeholder Engagement

"In a diverse area such as ours, there's inevitably going to be people who want the park quiet, all for themselves. But inevitably there are always going to be people who enjoy outdoor events and what better alternatives are here in a dense city such as ours? The consultation process needs to factor these diverse interests in and find a way of making the events workable. I recognise that it's not all about meeting my...needs, but finding a balance of meeting the needs of a very diverse community." (Haringey resident)

10.1 A recurring theme throughout this scrutiny investigation was the importance of stakeholders working together to maximise the benefits of hosting events while ensuring inevitable disruption is mitigated as far as possible.

- 10.2 As noted above, following the introduction of the new Outdoor Events Policy a Stakeholder Group was established to help implement the Policy within Finsbury Park.
- 10.3 The aim of the Group is to comment on the overall events programme and to provide advice on major event plans concerning the issues that directly affect residents, local businesses and park tenants.
- 10.4 Comments are used by Parks Officers to inform either contractual arrangements or to inform the view of the Safety Advisory Group in relation to licensable activity which is part of an event.
- 10.5 Membership of the Group includes elected councillors and council officers from Haringey, Hackney and Islington, residents, traders and police. Attendance at Stakeholder Group meetings is by membership only and meetings take place to coincide with the event planning process each year. Meetings are chaired by Cllr McNamara, Haringey's Cabinet Member for the Environment. The Terms of Reference for the Group are attached at **Appendix 1d**.
- 10.6 Stakeholder engagement commenced in the run up to five days of large scale events taking place in Finsbury Park in 2014 including two days of the Arctic Monkeys (staged by SJM) and three days of the Wireless Festival (staged by Live Nation), where approximately 45,000 event goers attended each day.
- 10.7 In terms of planning for 2015, although widely accepted that the 2014 events happened with better planning, organisation and implementation than the Stone Roses concerts in 2013, it was decided that further and more extensive stakeholder engagement should commence to address specific issues and concerns raised.
- 10.8 Significant emphasis was placed on engagement with residents and other stakeholders surrounding the park, but also with council officers and councillors of the neighbouring boroughs of Islington and Hackney so as to listen to their concerns and adopt a more joined-up approach to planning for a whole raft of issues associated with large crowds coming into the area.
- 10.9 In addition to the Stakeholder Group meetings there was a series of scheduled officer liaison meetings to co-ordinate discussions between the three boroughs of Haringey, Hackney and Islington, police and other emergency services and transport providers.
- 10.10 This process ensured valuable feedback was received on a number of issues – relating to both in and outside the park – with action taken to improve the arrangements for events that took place in 2015.
- 10.11 The feedback, from members of the Stakeholder Group, suggests these arrangements have generally been welcomed. The following points were highlighted during the various scrutiny sessions:
- Stakeholder meetings were a good forum for officers to share plans for the coming year with interested parties.
 - The ability to meet officers before, during and after events was welcomed.

- Feedback from the Group resulted in changes, and improvements, that would not otherwise have happened.
- The relationship between the three boroughs and other interested stakeholders seemed to work much better this year.
- Continued tri-borough communications is very important and will help improve future events.

10.12 However, despite this positive feedback, concerns about the operation of the Group have also been raised, including:

- Concerns that there is a democratic deficit, in that the impact of the events is substantially felt by Islington and Hackney residents but as events are in and run by Haringey they don't, or feel that they don't have an immediate way to raise concerns, make suggestions. It was felt that the Stakeholder Group could help to address this.
- A concern that the voices of all stakeholders were not always adequately heard.
- There were suggestions from some stakeholders that there should be nominated/named representatives from each group/organisation (to avoid over representation). There was also a suggestion that the Group might be improved by having fewer meetings, focusing on a smaller number of issues.
- Concerns that the Group wasn't able to manage the competing needs and opinions of different stakeholders, especially in relation to the differences between local residents and stakeholders with commercial interests.
- There were discussions about whether the Cabinet Member for Environment, as a decision maker for events, should also chair an advisory body.
- There were also suggestions that other community groups and local businesses, from all three boroughs, should be invited to take part in the Group.

10.13 The on-line survey also picked up a number of issues in relation to wider communication with local residents and businesses in the run up to the events. For example, a number of residents were unaware of events taking place in the park:

- *"I am usually unaware of the events in the park until they start putting up barriers. I only use the Hornsey Tavern entrance...and since it is not a major entrance there is never any advertising. There is never any notification to the local residents of events in the park either."* (Hackney resident)
- *"I never have a complete list of events and only know the big ones."* (Haringey resident)
- *"...there is little publicity as we're not Haringey residents."* (Hackney resident)
- *"...apart from the Wireless event I am not aware of any other events in the park."* (Haringey resident)

10.14 In addition, it was noted that a number of flats on Seven Sisters Road had not received communication materials due to issues with access. There were also complaints that other residents in close vicinity to the park had not received similar information.

10.15 With these issues in mind, the Committee has made recommendations to ensure (a) the Stakeholder Group remains a useful body and (b) greater awareness of all events that take part in the park.

Recommendation 3

To help manage the competing needs and opinions of different stakeholders, including those from neighbouring boroughs, the Cabinet Member for Environment is recommended to review the terms of reference for the Finsbury Park Events Stakeholder Group. This should be completed before the end of December 2015 with consideration given to:

- (a) Setting up two distinct groups – one for local residents and one for local businesses – to ensure feedback from both is used to help with event planning and to address local concerns around major events.
- (b) A ward councillor from Haringey or Stroud Green being nominated as the Chair.
- (c) Ensuring fair representation from all the groups participating.

Recommendation 4

To ensure local stakeholders, including ward councillors and residents, in Haringey, Hackney and Islington, are aware of all the events that take place in Finsbury Park, the majority being community or charity based, the Head of Direct Services is recommended to work with the Assistant Director of Communications, to review how information about future events is shared (electronically or otherwise) to ensure greater awareness of all events.

11. Noise and Complaints

11.1 The impact of noise was raised during evidence gathering sessions, via written submissions and via the online survey. Some of the concerns raised via the online survey include:

“Wireless... Totally unacceptable noise intrusion for 4 days with impact on our own experience of leisure time including often being unable to listen to music at home without hearing music from Finsbury Park. Walking near the park – on Green Lanes – the sound levels were extraordinary high and unacceptable. There had been no attempts to use technology to bring down the noise levels.”
(Haringey resident)

“Wireless 2015 Noise seemed much louder than for previous concerts – on Endymion Road I couldn’t hear my own TV over it. It is a disturbance not just on

the days of the event but beforehand and afterwards. And this time on two consecutive weekends. I don't think it's acceptable... (Haringey resident)

"There needs to be a lot more effort on noise control." (Islington resident)

"It's too noisy for too long, it's all day and all weekend." (Haringey resident)

"...Wireless this summer was extremely loud – sound checks take no account of wind direction. Usually music levels are fine – Wireless levels were unacceptable." (Haringey resident)

"...currently the bass reverberates throughout the flat, even with all doors and windows closed, and it is impossible to use the garden – and yet this is within the council noise limits..." (Haringey resident)

"Publication of sound levels from sound monitoring (and acceptable / target levels) on notice boards in the park (and website). This might enable informed discussion about noise to be had in planning for future events." (Haringey resident)

11.2 Concerns about noise were also raised during the various sessions with ward councillors from Haringey (Harringay Ward and Stroud Green Ward), Hackney (Brownswood Ward) and Islington (Finsbury Park Ward and Highbury West Ward).

11.3 In addition, noise was raised as an important issue during discussions with other witnesses including the Ladder Community Safety Partnership, the Stroud Green Residents Association, and the Friends of Finsbury Park. A number of issues were highlighted, including: the procedures that had been used to monitor noise levels; the fact that noise generated from events, and the levels of vibration, had been intrusive even when at permitted levels; the fact disruption occurred on both event days and during testing that takes place before events. Reports were also received that some residents had left their homes during the Wireless Festival in order to avoid the disruption caused by the noise.

11.4 Whilst most of the concerns raised about noise related to Wireless it's important to note that concerns were also considered in relation to other events including Ceremony and United.

11.5 With this in mind, the Committee received a comprehensive briefing on noise control. This confirmed that conditions for a Finsbury Park Premises License are based upon guidance set out in the "Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts".

11.6 The code recognises that music from events can cause disturbance to those living in the vicinity but gives guidance on how such disturbance or annoyance can be minimised. It states that even full compliance with the code may not eliminate all complaints and that local factors may affect the likelihood of complaints.

11.7 Each licensee is required to contract an acoustic consultant who produces a Noise Management Plan specific to the event. The acoustic consultant is required to be on site throughout the event to ensure that noise levels are met. In addition to this the Council's Enforcement Response team have an officer to oversee the work of the acoustic consultant.

- 11.8 It is recognised that at the sound levels permitted under the Licence residents will experience some inconvenience and that this will vary according to the location of their home, their age, vulnerability and sensitivity to noise. The type of music being played at any one time can also have an effect. For example, some residents may find that particular types of music disturb them more than others. Atmospherics including the temperature and wind conditions can have a significant effect upon the perception of noise outside a venue.
- 11.9 The Code of Practice recommends various levels dependent on the frequency of events and the use of the venue in question. For 4-12 concerts a year the code recommends that the Music Noise Level (MNL) should not exceed the background by more than 15dB(A) over a 15 minute period (LAeq15MIN). The code also suggests additional limits be imposed for events which continue past 23:00 hrs. However, amplified music events at Finsbury Park currently finish at 22:30 hrs (22:00 hrs on a Sunday).
- 11.10 Background Noise (LA90) is the noise level at a given location and time, measured in the absence of any alleged noise nuisance or sound sources being studied. The LA90 value is often used to describe background noise levels and is defined as the level exceeded for 90% of the measured time. For this purpose train noise e.g. from the rear of Woodstock Road would not form part of the background if it happens for less than 10% of the time.
- 11.11 LAeq15min is in effect the energy average level over the specified measurement period LAeq15min and is the most widely used indicator for environmental noise. This measurement has the risk of measuring the train noise at Woodstock Road.
- 11.12 The Code of Practice recognises that assessment of noise in dB(A) is convenient but can underestimate the intrusiveness of low frequency noise and this is often less of a problem near to an open air event than further away. As a result, complaints may occur some distance from an event simply because people can hear it and consequently there is a perception that the guidelines are not being met. Topographical and climatic conditions can be such that the MNL is lower at locations nearer to the venue.
- 11.13 In terms of monitoring, the venue licence conditions stipulate that noise levels are monitored from agreed locations that are representative of residential properties surrounding the park. The areas selected are based on providing a representative background noise level for those properties and others in the near vicinity.

Table 3 - Background levels and permitted levels

Location	Background Level	Comments	Permitted Level
Seven Sisters Road, N4 (LB Hackney)	63 dB(A)	Taken approx. mid-way along park length. Very busy main road-traffic predominates	78 dB(A)
Adolphus Road, N4 (LB Hackney)	51 dB(A)	Taken mid-way between Gloucester Drive and Alexandra Grove. Runs parallel to Seven Sisters Road – minimal traffic – shielded by medium rise flats.	66 dB(A)
Woodstock Road, N4	47 dB(A)	Taken at North bend. Separated from park by busy railway line – rear bedrooms face Park.	62 dB(A)
Stapleton Hall Road, N4	41 dB(A)	Taken 30m East of junction with Quermore Road. Residential-minimal traffic-located on hill overlooking North side of Park.	56 dB(A)
Lothair Road South, N4	46 dB(A)	Taken 30 m East of junction with Alroy Road. Parallel to Endymion Road.	61 dB(A)
Rowley Gardens, N4 (LB Hackney)	49 dB(A)	Taken centre of “quadrangle”. On Eastside of park and in middle of high rise flats.	64 dB(A)

11.14 The table above highlights that, apart from Seven Sisters Road, the noise limits set for Finsbury Park are significantly lower than other London venues:

- Victoria Park has a noise limit of 75dB LA eq15min
- Hyde Park has a noise limit of 75 dB LAeq15mins
- Clapham Common has a noise limit of 75 dB LAeq15mins

11.15 The acoustic consultant, as noted above, is on site throughout the event to ensure noise levels are met. In addition, the license requires that information is provided to residents and businesses two weeks prior to the event. This must include a synopsis of information about the event including dates and times based upon the Premises License application, information on how residents will be protected from excessive noise and the details of a dedicated and live complaints telephone line.

11.16 The Licensing Team provide a list of roads within a reasonable distance from the Park specifying the required distribution list. A draft of the letter to residents and businesses must be provided to the Haringey Licensing Team no later than five weeks prior to the event.

- 11.17 The license makes clear that on the day before, and on days during the event, sound checks and rehearsals should not exceed 90 minutes duration within an agreed 3 hour window. The times of sound checks and rehearsal are agreed by the Licensing Authority with no sound checks or rehearsals permitted at any other time.
- 11.18 The monitoring of the locations representative of the noise sensitive premises (indicated in the table above) must be undertaken by the appointed noise consultant on behalf of the Premises License holder throughout the times where there is regulated entertainment of any kind. Readings / noise levels must be stored for subsequent reporting or disclosure to appointed Licensing Authority representatives as they are obtained and upon request at any other time. A minimum of two people must be available outside the park to monitor noise levels and to provide a response to complainants. During Wireless the Noise Team operated with two teams of officers – one onsite the other outside the event area to react to complaints received further away.
- 11.19 Officers informed the Committee that resident complaints were received through Haringey's out of hours call centre, to the Licensing officer or direct to the publicly advertised events telephone line¹. Residents experiencing noise are offered a visit to their home and noise levels are checked at their nearest monitoring point.
- 11.20 A summary of complaints, received during the 2015 Wireless Festival including noise complaints logged via these channels, can be found in the table below.

¹ The license requirements are for the promoter to provide a complaints line that is active during the event times.

Table 4 – Complaints (Wireless Festival)

Type of complaint	2014	2015	Trend	Officer Comments
Noise – including vibration	170	85	Complaints overall are down from 217 to 122 with the bulk of the reductions coming from noise complaints (170 vs 85)	The Council has undertaken a full review of the monitoring points set around Finsbury Park. The outcomes of this review will be used to continue to work with our own consultants, noise officers and event organisers to improve the management of noise further.
Public behaviour	26	11	In 2014 complaints of public urination were received. In 2015 there were three complaints relating to public urination and other complaints related to youths loitering and street drinking.	A marked improvement on the previous year. Toilets placed in the surrounding roads were used and event host and stewards signposted and encouraged their use.
Traffic	5	9	Increase on last year	The council listened to residents' concerns around imposing parking restrictions on Sundays. This year residents complained that the parking was not suspended and as a result their spaces were taken up by festival goers. Complaints relating to residents not being permitted back in their roads when the road closures were in place.
Police	1	5	Complaints of lack of police in the area.	Policing levels provided according to risk assessment of event
Park issues	15	12	Park issues, primarily from members of the Friends of Finsbury Park	Complaints on park issues, damage to trees, road surfaces, loss of park space.
Total	217	122		

11.21 The Committee are pleased the number of complaints has come down from 217 – 122, with the bulk of the reduction coming from noise complaints (170 vs 85).

11.22 In addition, the Committee welcomes the fact that the Council has commissioned an independent acoustic consultant to review the way in which Finsbury Park events are monitored for noise. As part of this review suggestions will be put forward to ensure the monitoring process for noise is more transparent and more easily understood by the community, the Council and event promoters.

11.23 Despite these positive developments, a number of issues were raised during the evidence gathering that require further consideration. These include:

- Reports that Haringey call-centre staff had not welcomed noise complaints from Hackney or Islington residents who had been told to call their own local authority.
- The Wireless Festival complaint number was to a mobile phone answered by a person who could not give reference numbers and many people could not get through.
- There were too many avenues open for people to make complaints, including those listed above and others including residents going direct to their ward councillor. As a result, concerns were raised that opportunities to gain a better understanding of the issues raised had been lost with information being logged in different ways and not via the same system.
- Some witnesses highlighted that newsletters about the event had not reached a number of residents and that importantly sound check times were inaccurate in the newsletters.
- Suggestions that noise monitoring should be undertaken at higher locations to monitor noise levels for flats, especially for those living several stories up.

11.24 Similar concerns were raised via the online-survey. Some of these comments are noted below:

- *“I tried to phone the onsite number, but it was not working... The out of hours number is someone on the end of a phone somewhere else in the country who had never even heard of Finsbury Park.”* (Haringey resident)
- *“...since I am a Hackney resident I am unable to complain to Haringey about any of the noise or issues that affect me during this or any other event. Hackney are unable to take complaints as the festival is held by Haringey... The events complaints line was a single person with a mobile phone who sometimes did answer and other times did not. We were also refused reference numbers so there is no way to follow up any of the complaints moving forwards.”* (Hackney resident)

11.25 In addition, and based on feedback and discussions with event promoters, the Committee would want further consideration to be given to the location and the design of speakers used during events to help minimise noise disturbance.

11.26 Taking all of this into account, the Committee believe further work is still required if further improvements are to be made in relation to dealing with noise issues and complaints.

Recommendation 5

The Committee welcomes the Council's commitment to review the way in which noise at Finsbury Park is monitored. It is recommended that the independent acoustic consultant's findings and any action to be taken by the Council as a result, be made available to all stakeholders, before the end of December 2015, to make the monitoring process more transparent and better understood.

Recommendation 6

Moving forward, it is recommended that as part of the process for developing an Event Management Plan further consideration should be given, by the various agencies and event promoters, to the location and design of speakers and stages to help minimise noise disturbance.

Recommendation 7

The Head of Direct Services and Licensing Team Leader are recommended to work with the Feedback and Information Governance Team to review the process for logging event complaints. There should be one point of contact to: (a) enable appropriate and timely responses from the Council, event promoters and/or other agencies to complaints received from residents in Haringey, Hackney and Islington; (b) enable greater understanding of the issues raised; and (c) ensure lessons can be learnt from the feedback received.

12. Crowd Management

12.1 One of the main reasons for carrying out this review was in response to public order concerns, particularly around attempts to break in to the site, relating to the Wireless Festival in July 2015. As a result, the Committee considered a variety of issues in relation to crowd management at major events.

12.2 Some of the comments received via the online survey in relation to the stewarding and policing at Wireless are listed below:

- *"The security was lame at best, demonstrated by the crowds storming the event. Security did nothing to stop a festival goer from opening the gates to a crowd of people. It was simply out of control. I think the security were poorly trained and inexperienced."* (Haringey resident)
- *"Large crowds of people do not appeal to me...and are not good for an already densely populated area."* (Haringey resident)
- *"Not to my taste, seem out of control and unsafe."* (Hackney resident)#
- *"The event organisers and security staff owe it to everyone to create a safe environment...for those who have bought tickets, those living in the area and*

those trying to gatecrash the event. There should have been more security patrolling around the perimeter fence to stop people climbing over.” (Haringey resident)

- *“Personally witnessed a hoard of people trying to scale the barriers.”* (Haringey resident)
- *“The attendees came out at night when the event is finished but don’t always go home. They wander the area making a lot of noise and continue drinking.”* (Hackney resident)
- *“...a much stronger police presence is needed and stewards should be familiar with the area and have a large number of route maps to handout....Stop the festival goers walking in the roads.”* (Islington resident)
- *“People leaving the events is an issue when they disrupt local residents late at night by cutting through local estates making noise, urinating and generally adopting ASB. Crowd management needs reviewing...”* (Islington resident)

12.3 There was also significant media coverage following gate crashing with videos on YouTube and Facebook receiving millions of views. Some of the media coverage can be viewed via the links below:

- [The Metro: “Wireless 2015: Here’s the moment a bunch of gatecrashers Stormed Lethal Bizzle’s Performance”](#)
- [Islington Gazette – “Security slammed after mob gatecrashes Wireless festival”](#)

12.4 In response to these concerns the Committee interviewed a range of stakeholders, including the Metropolitan Police, the British Transport Police and Events Promoters, including representatives from Live Nation. This was to gain a better understanding of what had happened during Wireless and to ensure lessons had been learnt, with appropriate action taken.

12.5 The information below provides a summary of the events that occurred during the Wireless Festival and action that was taken.

Friday 3 July	Approx. 30 people tried to gain access. They tried scaling the fence. However, only one at a time gained access this way. One incident was filmed from inside that appeared to show a steward leaving the area. However, he had left as a response team was on its way. A gate was opened from inside by an individual. Once inside the event there were no issues arising from those who had gained access this way. However, the fact that people, without tickets, gained entry this way encouraged others to do the same on Saturday and Sunday. The releasing of the gate lock was recorded and placed on Youtube which encouraged others to attend the event in the hope of gaining entry in this way.
Saturday 4 July	On Saturday, there had been groups who were more insistent on getting in and there were some minor breaks in security but these were managed well by the organiser. The organiser had sufficient stewards to deal with the situation following the events on Friday. This included placing extra barriers and staff at the various exit gates around the site internally.
Sunday 5 July	On Sunday, additional stewards were brought in by event organisers. During the day there were a number of small groups trying to get in without tickets. These smaller groups had not been able to breach the fence but as a result these groups combined to surge the main gate during late afternoon. This resulted in approx. 200 people gaining entry and led to the main gate being out of action for an hour. The Territorial Support Group (TSG) came to the park on the Sunday afternoon but they were not deployed as the crowds dispersed as they came around the green shield and saw the line of TSG walking into the park. The Met Police assisted the promoters by forming a barrier line at the front entrance point to allow the security to assess the situation and to continue allowing paying customers to enter the event. Fortunately, the impact on the rest of the crowd, inside the event, was relatively minor.

12.6 The following issues were explored further during various evidence gathering sessions:

- The gate rushing by non ticket holders and the impact of social media together with print at home tickets (E-tickets) being copies/shared.
- Ticket touts
- The fact that different artists and finish times both had effects on crowd dynamics.
- The importance of events having clear start and finish times to help with ingress and egress planning. The importance of customers leaving as quickly as possible after the event was also recognised.
- The use of nitrous oxide gas, and the fact this cannot be dealt with by declaring a Public Spaces Protection Order as the use is not of a frequent and regular nature. The Government is due to bring in new legislation in relation to psychoactive substances that will effectively ban the use of these as a legal high.

- Crime levels recorded during Wireless. It was noted that there were 116 crime statistics over the festival and that this was similar to previous years and in line with what the police had expected. The British Transport Police made one arrest during Wireless but this was not related to the festival.
- The importance of looking at crime measures in terms of raising awareness around concert goers about being diligent with their phones and belongings.
- There had been 30 medical on staff during the Wireless Festival, in addition to ambulance crews. This was funded by Wireless. 375 patients had been seen at Wireless with 5 required to go to hospital. This was noted as being a comparatively low number as the normal numbers would be around 1% of those attending.
- There was police support at the main entrance to the Wireless Festival event that was paid for by the promoters. There was also police in attendance outside of the event space that were there as part of their business as usual and were not paid for by the promoter.
- It was recognised that due to reduced budgets there had been a reduction in the number of police allocated to the 2015 Wireless Festival. As a result more importance was placed on effective stewarding.
- In view of the above, and based on the learning from recent events, the need for promoters to submit robust management plans that identify specific resources for dealing with the front of house and security around the perimeter of the site as well as external security or stewarding in the wider area. In view of the gate crashing, consideration was also given to different types of entry systems to help minimise the opportunities for anyone entering without a ticket.
- The Committee were informed that British Transport Police would not get involved in crowd control unless it related to a breach of the peace. The Committee was informed that if the British Transport Police got involved in crowd control then the rest of the system at Finsbury Park station would break down.
- The importance of good communication between different agencies during events and the importance of the Event Control room.
- It was recognised that the gate storming had created problems for side roads and also at Finsbury Park Station. It was acknowledged that it would have been beneficial for the British Transport Police to have been represented in the Event Control room.
- Impact of anti-social behaviour. For example, public urination, after parties, and crowds staying outside the event area to drink in local pubs causing complaints.
- Issues on egress from residents affected and concerns that stewarding in side roads at egress was lacking or inconsistent. The importance of stewards working in pairs (rather than alone) was also highlighted.
- The value of stewards having local knowledge, especially during egress. For example, directing people to the station at Manor House rather than directing everyone to the station at Finsbury Park.

- The pros and cons of using Territorial Support Group (TSG) officers used at Love Box, Victoria Park, Tower Hamlets
- The loss of the Wells Terrace entrance in the future and the impact this will have on dispersal.

12.7 To help improvements to be made to crowd management arrangements for major events the following recommendations are put forward for consideration by the Safety Advisory Group.

Recommendation 8

To ensure improvements are made in relation to crowd management, including security and stewarding, it is recommended that the Safety Advisory Group gives consideration to the following issues when advising on future major events:

- (a) The need for all relevant agencies to be in the control room during an event.
- (b) The security arrangements for both in and outside the park should be reviewed. This should include consideration of increased police resource and importantly the use of more SIA accredited stewards who can work alongside council officers.
- (c) In addition to stewards receiving appropriate briefings from event promoters stewards should also receive a briefing from council staff to ensure local knowledge / information about the area is passed on.
- (d) Resources should be set asides to ensure stewards, working in pairs with suitable local knowledge, can provide a visible presence in local side roads, ensuring sign posting to public toilets, public transport and other local facilities.
- (e) The introduction of a robust three-stage entry system, using the existing site footprint, to improve ingress arrangements minimising the opportunity for anyone to enter the site without a ticket.

13. Transport Management

13.1 In addition to the points above², concerning ingress and egress, a number of issues were highlighted in relation to traffic and transport management.

13.2 A number of comments, and suggestions, were received via the online survey, including:

- *"...the effect on the local infrastructure. The traffic was terrible in the entire surrounding area on event days..."* (Haringey resident)
- *"There were people parked up in my street overnight sleeping in cars and others who had clearly stayed out all night."* (Hackney resident)
- *"Hackney parking restrictions not in force for event days for Wireless festival. I am disabled...and (the) disabled bay outside my home and one across the road (was) in continual use as soon as I left home. There was nowhere to park and as I cannot walk any distance my partner had to take my car down the road to park when I returned home and collect it for me to go out next time."* (Hackney resident)
- *"The tube station was unusable all weekend."* (Haringey resident)
- *"Finsbury Park station was too over crowded."* (Haringey resident)
- *"Implement parking restrictions to protect resident parking."* (Haringey resident)
- *"If residents' parking zones are to be brought into force over weekends for events then signage needs to be put in place and proper enforcement should take place."* (Haringey resident)
- *"Don't close Seven Sisters road..."* (Hackney resident)

13.3 It should be noted that following complaints about traffic in 2014, the council listened to residents' concerns around imposing parking restrictions on Sundays. This year residents complained that the parking was not suspended and as a result their spaces were taken by festival goers.

13.4 These issues, and others, were explored during the various evidence gathering sessions with stakeholders. The following issues were discussed:

- Parking controls on the Hackney side of the park.
- The impact of "rat running" especially in Finsbury Park Ward.
- The fact that Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs) had been used but had been designed for football matches at the Emirates. As a result it was noted that the times they covered were not entirely appropriate. In addition, it was reported that there had been delays in the removal of parking restriction signage.

² Please see the section on Crowd Management above

- The removal of illegally parked vehicles had been problematic due to the fact that four different authorities were involved.
- The plans concerning Wells Terrace and the loss of this area in the future.
- The impact of Night Tube in relation to egress arrangements.
- Road closures, traffic and bus diversions and congestion affecting travel in Haringey, Hackney and Islington. This included concerns relating to the duration of the closure of Seven Sisters Road (from Green Lanes to Holloway Road) and congestion in Stroud Green Road.
- The special traffic controls at Moray Road and Durham Road that had been put in place by Islington.

13.5 In addition, the Committee noted that learning from previous events had resulted in a number of changes for events held in 2015. For example, previous events resulted in large crowds on Perth Road at the “Faltering Full Back”. This resulted in conflict between concert goers and parents / children at the end of the school day. This year, the promoter was requested not to use the entrance near Perth Road and was requested to use the Finsbury Park Gate as the point of ingress so that crowds did not conflict with other non concern goers.

13.6 Another learning point highlighted from previous events related to the time taken to attend, and the available egress routes, for medical incidents. Following discussions with the London Ambulance Service, and the London Fire Brigade, the Committee are satisfied that issues regarding road closures and the potential impact for access by emergency vehicles were addressed through the comprehensive planning process for the 2015 events.

13.7 Moving forward, the Committee supports the written response received from Transport for London’s Events Team, outlined below:

Table 5: Transport for London, Events Team

Purpose

This document is in response to the review being undertaken by the Local Authority into the organisation and delivery of commercial events taking place in Finsbury Park. These comments are specifically in relation to events at the Park on the 27th and 28th of June 2015 and between the 3rd and 5th of July 2015. This document provides an overview of events. Specific detail can be provided if requested.

The collated views expressed in this document are those of experienced event planners employed by Transport for London, specifically from London Buses, London Underground and the London Streets Traffic Control Centre. The planners have been involved in the planning process, including representation at the Safety Advisory Groups. Most have been involved in this specific planning process for Finsbury Park for several years. They are also involved in the planning of similar events across London on behalf of Transport for London. TfL seeks to assist in the facilitation of events which may have an impact on the TfL route networks, whilst recognising the disruption to transport users and minimising the impact.

Background

TfL have been involved in the planning of the response to events at Finsbury Park in conjunction with the local authority, other agencies and the emergency services. The Safety Advisory Group has agreed to both crowd and traffic management plans which permit the events to go ahead but strive to minimise the impact on transport and the community. These plans are agreed on the basis that timing, resourcing and agreed communication protocols would be adhered to.

Finsbury Park events, due to their size, attendance numbers and egress times do affect the TFL networks. The relatively hard egress from these events results in large numbers of pedestrians using the Seven Sisters Road, and the requirement to minimise the possibility of pedestrians and vehicles coming into conflict. Accordingly the road is closed for a substantial period upon egress which results in not inconsiderable bus route diversions. Consequently other traffic is also displaced and there is an increase in road use in the surrounding roads. The impact of the egress and the changes put in place to accommodate it extend considerably beyond the completion of the event and there is considerable activity required to support the return to business as usual.

The large numbers egressing the events have an impact on the London Underground system and effective stewarding outside the station is essential to allow the station to operate safely by controlling access and minimise the danger of platform overcrowding.

Planning

The planning process appears to work well, with good buy-in from external agencies and a structured practical approach to the process. Documentation appears fit for purpose and there are good working relationships between the parties involved. However, it is essential that the agreed proposed processes and operational delivery conform to the planning assumptions and agreements.

Crowd Management

Although there were agreed plans for crowd management this year the delivery in certain aspects could have been improved to support the event. This was particularly relevant to the Underground Station where both stewarding numbers and controls appears to be lacking. There were safety issues raised in respect of the queues immediately outside the station entrance.

There are identified issue of anti-social behaviour by some of the event attendees. This is identified by TfL in respect of debris left in the bus station by pedestrians using this as a thoroughfare. It is assumed that this is replicated across the egress routes.

The length of the egress process appears to be extending year on year with a consequent higher impact on the transport network. There are a limited number of egress points to the Park and with the large number of attendees it may be an appropriate time to review the access points available, egress routes and the level of stewarding and crowd management.

Issues were identified with immediate communication links between the organisers /

stewarding company and the London Streets Traffic Control Centre. The protocol should be reviewed to identify the specific areas for improvement and any enhancement of the existing processes and protocols.

General

It should be recognised that identifying areas for improvement does not mean that the continuance of any event is untenable. It is reasonable to say that all events pose specific challenges, some of which are more difficult to address than others. Of utmost importance is the continued dialogue, inter-agency working and the development of practical and deliverable plans which are fully understood by all, supporting both the delivery of the event and minimising the impact on the travelling public and residents who do not wish to attend the events.

- 13.8 The Committee acknowledge that the issues above will continue to be explored via the Safety Advisory Group. In addition, to further support both the delivery of events and to minimise the impact on the travelling public and residents who do not wish to attend the events, the Committee agree that Controlled Parking Zone arrangements across Haringey, Hackney and Islington, should be reviewed.

Recommendation 9

The Head of Traffic Management is recommended to review Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) arrangements to ensure they are appropriate for events held in Finsbury Park with consideration given to CPZ timings being consistent across the three boroughs during events.

14. The Clean Up

- 14.1 A number of concerns were raised in relation to the take-down and clear-up of events. For example, the following issues were highlighted by the public survey:

- *"The main problem is the failure to clean up properly."* (Haringey resident)
- *"I regularly exercise in the park and the level of litter remaining (fragments of glass, cigarette butts etc) is unacceptable and a danger to local residents that wish to use the park throughout the year."* (Haringey resident)
- *"The grass was ruined."* (Haringey resident)
- *"I have seen many photos and I am horrified at the unnecessary harm to trees and the open grass areas that was caused."* (Haringey resident)
- *"Considerable damage was done to the park an important resource for communities, fencing was down and damaged, trees were harmed. The park is still not in a good state after Wireless. This is unacceptable."* (Haringey resident)
- *"...start the cleaning up process immediately and have people cleaning the park during the night. It is unsightly to walk through the park the morning after and see all the debris left behind."* (Haringey resident)

- *“More investment in cleaning up during events and cleaning up and restoration after events, not just in Finsbury Park itself but in every street between all Station exits and Finsbury Park.”* (Haringey resident)
- *“Could I suggest that more temporary litter bins are placed around the area and that the dustbin collection to also include the “normal” rubbish bin regardless of whether it’s due that week or not.”* (Haringey resident)

14.2 Other issues highlighted, during the course of the scrutiny review, relate to damage caused to the main carriageway and to a perceived lack of time between events for certain areas of the park to return to their previous state.

14.3 In terms of Wireless, the Committee was particularly concerned that the clear up didn’t go as well as it should have done. As a result, these issues were explored with various stakeholders, including event promoters and council officers. This enabled current practices to be reviewed and allowed possible new ways of working to be explored.

14.4 Moving forward, and recognising that the cost of any damage is paid for by event organisers, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee hope the recommendations below are taken forward to help address various issues relating to the clear-up and event recovery process.

Recommendation 10

As part of the licensing process each event promoter should be asked to submit additional information, as part of their Event Management Plan, to explain how the take down and handover process will be managed and signed off. This should include information concerning the street cleaning (and bin collection) schedule for streets affected across Haringey, Islington and Hackney.

Recommendation 11

Following the take down, the Head of Direct Services is recommended to develop a recovery action plan. This should: (a) list any damage, recorded as part of the post event site inspection; (b) detail the repair work that’s required (with costs); and (c) provide clear dates for the completion of each maintenance task. This information should be shared with stakeholders (making it clear that the cost of any damage is paid for by the event organiser, not the Council).

15. Minimising the Impact

15.1 It was noted that the Outdoor Events Policy and its implementation had a real impact on Finsbury Park and the surrounding areas. Much of this impact has been discussed above, including noise, crowds, impact on transport and travel, and on the park itself, along with recommended mitigations.

15.2 In addition, the process of staging large events puts a significant area of the park out of bounds for general use.

- 15.3 It was noted that efforts had been made to maintain public access routes through the event area for as long as possible, and that further efforts to reduce impact would continue to form part of the agreements made with event organisers. But the balance between income generation and the impact of income-generating activity must be kept continually under review. The Committee at this stage recommends the following:

Recommendation 12

To limit the impact events in Finsbury Park have on the local community it is recommended that:

- (a) Summer holidays should continue to be excluded from any major event booking period and importantly Finsbury Park should be returned, and be in full use, before the start of the summer holidays;
- (b) The number of events (five) and duration (a maximum of three days per event), allowed in the policy, should not be increased any further;
- (c) Policy implementation should ensure in practice that no more than two successive weekends are used for major events between the end of the May half-term and the start of the summer holiday period, and that no more than two successive weekends are used after the summer holiday period until the end of September;
- (d) Any events held in Finsbury Park during September should be smaller (than the June/July events) with a maximum capacity of 20,000 to ensure better coordination with other events, such as football at the Emirates Stadium;
- (e) That events held on a Sunday should always finish no later than 10.00pm.

16. Tobacco

- 16.1 This section addresses concerns, raised during the scrutiny review, in relation to the potential impact of tobacco marketing at music events.
- 16.2 Smoking remains the main cause of preventable illness and premature death in the UK and in Haringey. Smoking also greatly increases your chance of stroke, heart disease, cancers and respiratory illness which lead to long term conditions which impact on unhealthy life expectancy. Smoking is also a major cause of health inequalities. In England, fifty percent of the gap in life expectancy is due to smoking and it has been identified as the single biggest cause of inequality in death rates between rich and poor. In Haringey the gap in life expectancy is 7 years for men and 3 years for women between wards in the east and the west of the borough.
- 16.3 During the review concerns were raised by a number of stakeholders, including the charity Action on Smoking and Health (ASH), in relation to: (a) the burden of tobacco use; (b) young people and tobacco marketing; (c) tobacco marketing at

events attended by young people; and (d) the potential impact of tobacco marketing at music events on local people in Haringey.

16.4 The Committee was made aware that since the implementation of the Tobacco and Advertising and Promotions Act in 2003, almost all forms of cigarette advertising have been banned. However, evidence from both ASH and the Director of Public Health highlighted that the tobacco industry has consequently become reliant on other forms of advertising and has invested heavily in promoting their products through other channels which has included outdoor festivals, sporting events, cigarette packaging and social media³.

16.5 According to [Statista](#), the age distribution of festival-goers in the United Kingdom in 2013 shows that the greatest share of festival visitors were between 16 and 30 years of age (60%). As a result, young people have been a major focus for tobacco information campaigns and there is strong evidence that exposure to tobacco advertising, marketing and promotion is a factor influencing children and young people's uptake of smoking⁴.

16.6 The evidence submitted by ASH highlighted that tobacco stalls used at music events can prompt impulse purchases and can increase sales. ASH highlighted that young people are particularly likely to make unplanned purchases while ex-smokers and people who are trying to stop smoking are also vulnerable to these purchases, resulting in relapse.

16.7 In view of these concerns, the Committee asked for further information from Daliah Barrett, Licensing Team Leader, who confirmed:

- None of the events in Finsbury Park are sponsored or promoted by the tobacco industry so there is no advertising or promotion of cigarette use.
- Cigarettes are available on site to customers who attend because smokers are not able to go out of the event to purchase cigarettes once they have entered the event space.
- Retailers selling tobacco are obliged to comply with various legislative measures but there is currently no licensing requirement for the sale of tobacco products.
- National regulations came into force in April 2015 that restrict the display of cigarettes and point of sale advertising of tobacco products i.e. selling points can no longer advertise or display products.
- Event organisers need to ensure they are compliant with new legislation.

³ Moodie C, Mackintosh AM, Brown A, et al. Tobacco marketing awareness on youth smoking susceptibility and perceived prevalence before and after an advertising ban. *Eur J Public Health* 2008;18:484–90

⁴ Lovato, C et al. Cochrane Review: Impact of tobacco advertising and promotion on increasing adolescent smoking behaviours. *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2004

Pierce JP, Gilpin E, Burns DM, et al. Does tobacco advertising target young people to start smoking? Evidence from California. *JAMA*.1991; 266:3154–3158 20

Lovato, C et al. Cochrane Review: Impact of tobacco advertising and promotion on increasing adolescent smoking behaviours. *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2004

16.8 The Council's Corporate Plan 2015-18 sets out the Council's commitment to focus on prevention to "*enable every child in Haringey to have the best start in life*" (Priority 1); "*for people to live long and fulfilling lives*" (Priority 2) and via Key Priority 2 in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy to "*increasing healthy life expectancy*".

16.9 In view of these commitments the Committee believe the recommendations below should be taken forward as part of efforts to prevent the promotion of smoking and to reduce children and young people's exposure to tobacco.

Recommendation 13

The Committee notes that retailers selling tobacco are obliged to comply with various legislative measures and new national regulations that restrict the display of cigarettes and point of sale advertising of tobacco. With this in mind, and in addition to the licensing process for Finsbury Park, it is recommended that (a) it becomes a condition of hiring the park that any tobacco stalls should be as plain as possible (e.g. no bright colours or lights) to help prevent the promotion of smoking; and that (b) any evidence arising from this year's events in relation to tobacco products be reviewed by the Licensing Team Leader in advance of future events.

17. Future Events

17.1 Whilst a number of concerns were raised during the investigation, it's important to note that opportunities for future events were also identified. These were considered with stakeholders at meetings and from suggestions put forward as part of the public survey. In addition, discussions took place that focused on ways to overcome barriers identified.

17.2 Findings from the public survey highlight some local residents had not attended events in the park due to the following reasons:

- Events not of interest
- Unaware of events
- Park should be preserved as a green space
- "The tickets are very expensive and no residents' discount has been offered." (Hackney resident)

17.3 Various comments were also received in relation to the need to pitch events at the wider community. For example:

- "I don't fit the demographic for events like Wireless – over 60s not really catered for." (Haringey resident)
- "(I don't attend)...because they all seem to be geared to people in their early 20s..." (Islington resident)
- "They are not really aimed at families with young children." (Haringey resident)

17.4 In view of these comments, the Committee considered the following points:

Routemaster

- *"The route-master event is popular, and works well in the space used."* (Hackney resident)
- *"Open to all, free, left no mess or damage to the park."* (Islington resident)

Cycling events

- *"...small and fun for the kids."* (Hackney resident)
- *"Small, low impact, free and inclusive."* (Hackney resident)

New (Hidden) River Festival

- *"A small local event that worked really well."* (Hackney resident)
- *"...planned well in advance, community given chance to be involved, diverse, community focussed."* (Haringey resident)

Fleadh

- *"...appropriate for the size of the park, appealing to a mixed age group, didn't cause too much disruption..."* (Haringey resident)

17.5 The following issues were also considered in relation to planning for future events:

- Opportunities that could be created for local people as a result of hosting events.
- Developing meaningful opportunities for volunteering.
- Support for local traders / businesses.
- The possibility of developing a 3-5 year programme of events to enable all stakeholders to better prepare and plan for events.
- Delivering events that reflect the diversity of Haringey's population.
- Ensuring event space is provided for local community groups, charities and businesses to help them to promote their work during the events.
- Supporting local residents to gain the skills they require for jobs that become available during events held in the Park.

18. With these issues in mind, the Committee has put forward a number of recommendations to help develop a mixed and diverse range of events for the Park.

Recommendation 14

The Cabinet Member for Environment is recommended to develop a 3-5 year programme of events for Finsbury Park to enable all stakeholders to better prepare and plan for events.

Recommendation 15

In developing a 3-5 year events programme for Finsbury Park the Cabinet Member for Environment is recommended to give consideration to:

- (a) Delivering events that reflects the diversity of Haringey's population. This should include providing opportunities for local artists / bands to show case their talent during events held in Finsbury Park.
- (b) Using the expertise and knowledge from across the council to deliver a mixed and diverse range of events that help the Council to achieve objectives set out in the Corporate Plan.
- (c) The provision of event space for local community groups, charities and businesses to promote their work during events.
- (d) Encouraging more members of the public, including community groups and charities, to hold events in the park.
- (e) Working with event promoters to identify opportunities for work experience and volunteering.
- (f) Working with event promoters to enable the Council and local Jobcentres to signpost, and help local residents gain skills required, for jobs that become available during events held in Finsbury Park.
- (g) Working with event promoters to ensure local businesses have opportunities to take part in events, e.g. catering, and looking at how the Council can support local businesses overcome any barriers identified.
- (h) Providing a discounted/lottery ticket scheme for local residents.

APPENDICES

- Appendix 1a:** Finsbury Park Events Scrutiny Project – Scoping Document
- Appendix 1b:** Review Contributors
- Appendix 1c:** Analysis of Survey Responses
- Appendix 1d:** Finsbury Park Events Stakeholder Group – Terms of Reference
- Appendix 2:** Recommendations

Appendix 1a: Finsbury Park Events Scrutiny Project – Scoping Document

Review Topic	Finsbury Park Events
Scrutiny Project Membership	<p>Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will carry out this review:</p> <p>Councillors: Charles Wright (Chair), Pippa Connor, Kirsten Hearn, Eugene Akwasi-Ayisi, and Adam Jogee</p> <p>Statutory Co-optees: Luke Collier (School Governor Rep), Yvonne Denny (Church Rep), Chukwyemeka Ekeowa (Church Rep), and Kafale Taye (School Governor Reps)</p>
Terms of Reference (Purpose of the Review / Objectives)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To understand the impact of recent events held in Finsbury Park to gain a greater understanding of the budget context for parks – including income and where this money is spent – and how this is balanced against the impact on local people and businesses. 2. To consider the position of Finsbury Park as a major London park contributing to city-wide events. 3. To reflect on recent large events that have taken place in Finsbury Park, with particular focus on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and organisation; • Facilities; • Policing, security and crowd control; • Noise and complaints; • Transport, ingress and egress; • Damage and arrangements for remediation; and • Community engagement. 4. In the light of the above, to make recommendations to the Council and its partners for improvements in the arrangements for future events that are consistent with the aims and objectives of the Outdoor Events Policy and seek to minimise any potential adverse effects on the park.

Links to the Corporate Plan	<p>This review relates to Priority 3 – “A clean, well maintained and safe borough where people are proud to live and work”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “We will work with communities to improve the environment, particularly by reducing anti-social behaviour and environmental crime” (Objective 1) - “We will make our street, parks and estates clean, well maintained and safe” (Objective 2) <p>In addition there are links to Priority 4 “ Drive growth and employment which everyone can benefit”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “Deliver growth, by creating an environment that supports investment and growth in business and jobs” (Objective 2)
Evidence Sources	<p>This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Haringey’s Outdoor Events Policy (January 2014) - Feedback (complaints, compliments and social media) for events held in Finsbury Park - Consideration of information posted on neighbourhood websites e.g. Harringay Online - Noise Reports - Licensing information - Management Plans – an overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Presentation by Licensing Team Leader - Information on how other Local Authorities deal with major events - Feedback from stakeholders and local resident associations, including neighbouring boroughs (see below) - Feedback from local shops/businesses
Witnesses	<p>The following witnesses will be invited to take part in the review / submit evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members of the Finsbury Park Stakeholder Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Chair – Cabinet Member for the Environment o Friends of Finsbury Park o Stroud Green Residents Association o Highbury Community Association o Ladder Community Safety Partnership o Manor House Development Trust o Haringey Green Lanes Traders Association o Finsbury Park Trust

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Finsbury Park Tenant Representatives ○ Ward Councillors – Stroud Green ○ Ward Councillors – Haringay ○ Haringey Parks and Leisure Services ○ Haringey Licensing Officer ○ Metropolitan Police Service ○ Officers – Hackney ○ Officers – Islington <p>- Safety Advisory Group (SAG)</p> <p>- Transport for London</p> <p>- Ward Councillors / Cabinet Members from Islington and Hackney</p> <p>- Finsbury Park Event Promoters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Live Nation ○ Festival Republic ○ Slammin' Events ○ J E A Manning and Sons <p>In addition, Overview and Scrutiny will encourage written submissions from the public, organisations, businesses and other interested parties.</p>
Methodology/Approach	<p>A variety of methods will be used to gather evidence from the witnesses above, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site visit to Finsbury Park (non event day) – with photos/maps prepared in advance - Site visit to Finsbury Park (during events in September) - Desk top research - Evidence gathering sessions / workshops with witnesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ meeting venues in/around Finsbury Park would be preferred - Review of evidence sources (listed above – including written submissions) - Final report / findings to be considered by OSC (at a public meeting) on 19 October

Equalities Implications	<p>Haringey's Outdoor Events Policy was agreed by Cabinet in December 2013. The covering report for this item notes:</p> <p><i>"An equality screening tool was completed in regard to the proposed policy and found that the proposal has no impact on protected characteristics other than religion or belief."</i></p> <p><i>"The policy retains the existing provision that organisations professing a religion or a belief can hire the park like any other group, but they cannot book the park primarily for an act of worship. Whilst this could have the effect of discouraging religious or belief organisations from using the park primarily for an act of worship such as praying, such events could by their nature exclude others from attending the event or using the park more generally. In hiring a park for an event the Council wishes to promote all events as inclusive to the whole community. Further, the policy does permit acts of worship where incidental to the overall event, for example a convention."</i></p> <p>Questions for scrutiny to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How does the Council know that events at Finsbury Park have been inclusive to the whole community? - Has there been any negative impact on equality groups as a result of events taking place at Finsbury Park?
Timescale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The review will be set up by OSC on 27 July 2015 (following initial scoping on 23 July) - Desk research from 27 July - Evidence gathering (including site visits / walk around Finsbury Park) from 10 August – 28 August - Call for Evidence (online survey) closes - 28 August - Initial findings to be discussed before Finsbury Park events in September i.e. w/c 31 August - Members of OSC to attend events at the park (Ceremony and / or United) on 12th/13th September - Additional evidence gathering / meetings to take place during early September (as required) - Analyse findings / develop recommendations mid September - Final report signed off (with comments from legal / finance) by 5 October - OSC meets on 19 October to discuss / agree final report (Public Meeting) - Cabinet Response – with partner input – prepared for 10 November or 15 December
Reporting arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The dates for reporting are noted above. - Stephen McDonnell, Deputy Director Operations & Community Safety, has confirmed that he will co-ordinate the Cabinet Response (with input from partners as appropriate).

Publicity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Press release to be issued after OSC on 27 July - Call for Evidence will be issued to encourage written submissions from the public, organisations, businesses and other interested parties to be organised. - The Call for Evidence will be based on the following (draft) questions: (a) "List or describe what you thought was successful or worked well?; (b) List or describe what you thought was not successful or did not work well?; and (c) List your thoughts/recommendations for improvement for future events?
Constraints / Barriers / Risks	<p>The Chair of OSC would like this review to take place, with consideration given to initial findings, before the next round of Finsbury Park events in early/mid September. As a result, this requires meetings to take place during August. To ensure all witnesses (identified above) have the opportunity to attend evidence gathering sessions, various workshops will be arranged during August and, if needed, additional meetings will be held in early September. A "call for evidence" will also be launched to encourage written submissions from the public, organisations, businesses and other interested parties. In addition, the final report will be considered by Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 19 October. This provides an opportunity for members of the public to "have their say" if requests are received in accordance with Part 4, Section B of the Council's constitution.</p>
Officer Support	<p>Scrutiny Support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Christian Scade, Principal Scrutiny Officer / Rob Mack, Principal Scrutiny Officer <p>Service Support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stephen McDonnell, Deputy Director Operations & Community Safety - Sarah Jones, Events and Partnerships Manager - Parks and Leisure Services - Simon Farrow, Interim Head of Direct Services - Tim Pyall, Infrastructure Manager - Daliah Barrett, Licensing Team Leader - Eubert Malcolm, Head of Community Safety and Regulatory Services

Appendix 1b

Review contributors

The Committee interviewed the following witnesses as part of their evidence gathering (in order of their appearance before the group)

Name	Job Title/Role	Organisation
Simon Farrow	Interim Head of Direct Services	Haringey Council
Daliah Barrett	Licensing Team Leader	Haringey Council
Sarah Jones	Events and Partnerships Manager - Parks and Leisure Services	Haringey Council
Malcolm Eubert	Head of Community Safety and Regulatory Services	Haringey Council
Jenny Gray	Senior Communications Officer	Haringey Council
Alan Palmer	Resilience and Special Operations Unit	London Ambulance Service
Ch Insp Judith Beehag-Fisher	Chief Inspector	Metropolitan Police Service
Sgt Andy Underwood	Sergeant	Metropolitan Police Service
Cllr Gina Adamou	Harringay Ward Councillor	Haringey Council
Cllr Claire Potter	Brownswood Ward Councillor	Hackney Council
Ian Sygrave	Chair	Ladder Community Safety Partnership
Kit Greveson	Chair	Stroud Green Residents Association
Niall Forde	Licensing Team	Islington Council
Cllr Gary Heather	Finsbury Park Ward Councillor	Islington Council
Mike Howlin	Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Regulatory Fire Safety Team	London Fire Brigade
Denis Ioannou	Senior Building Surveyor	Haringey Council
Felicia Ekemezuma	Joint Food Health and Safety Manager	Haringey Council
Rebecca Whitehouse	Joint Food Health and Safety Manager	Haringey Council
Joseph Manning	Manning's Funfair	J E A Manning & Sons
Insp Liam Kelly	Inspector (Piccadilly Line)	British Transport Police
Kevin Duffy	Chair	The Friends of Finsbury Park
Alexis Skeades		The Friends of Finsbury Park
Jeremy Llewelyn-Jones		The Friends of Finsbury Park

Name	Job Title/Role	Organisation
Cllr Richard Greening	Highbury West Ward Councillor	Islington Council
Tony Casale	Network and CCTV Manager	Haringey Council
Barry Scales	Service Team Manager, Community Safety (Events)	Hackney Council
Cllr Tim Gallagher	Stroud Green Ward Councillor	Haringey Council
Simon Donovan	Chief Executive	Manor House Development Trust
Talal Karim		Finsbury Park Trust
Ruth Catlow	Co-Founder and Artistic Director	Furtherfield
Melvin Benn	Managing Director	Festival Republic
Ian Donaldson	Site Manger for Wireless	Festival Republic
Emma Kemshell	Project Manager for Wireless	Live Nation
Paul Rooney	Director	Slammin' Events
Cllr Raj Sahota	Stroud Green Ward Councillor	Haringey Council
Cllr Emine Ibrahim	Harringay Ward Councillor	Haringey Council
Cllr Stuart McNamara	Cabinet Member for the Environment	Haringey Council



SCRUTINY OF FINSBURY PARK EVENTS

Appendix 1c

Analysis of Survey Responses



ABOUT THE PUBLIC SURVEY

Aims, objectives and format.

ABOUT THE SURVEY

○ **Survey Aim**

- To facilitate the involvement of local residents and members of the public

○ **Objectives**

- To help understand the characteristics of those events that were perceived to work well and those that did not
- To identify ways in which future events held at the park could be improved

○ **Format**

- Survey was on-line
- Survey was open for 1 month (closed on 28th August 2015)
- Members of the public could also contribute qualitatively via email (responses circulated to members)
- Supporting web page





ABOUT THOSE WHO RESPONDED

Number of responses, who responded and where they lived

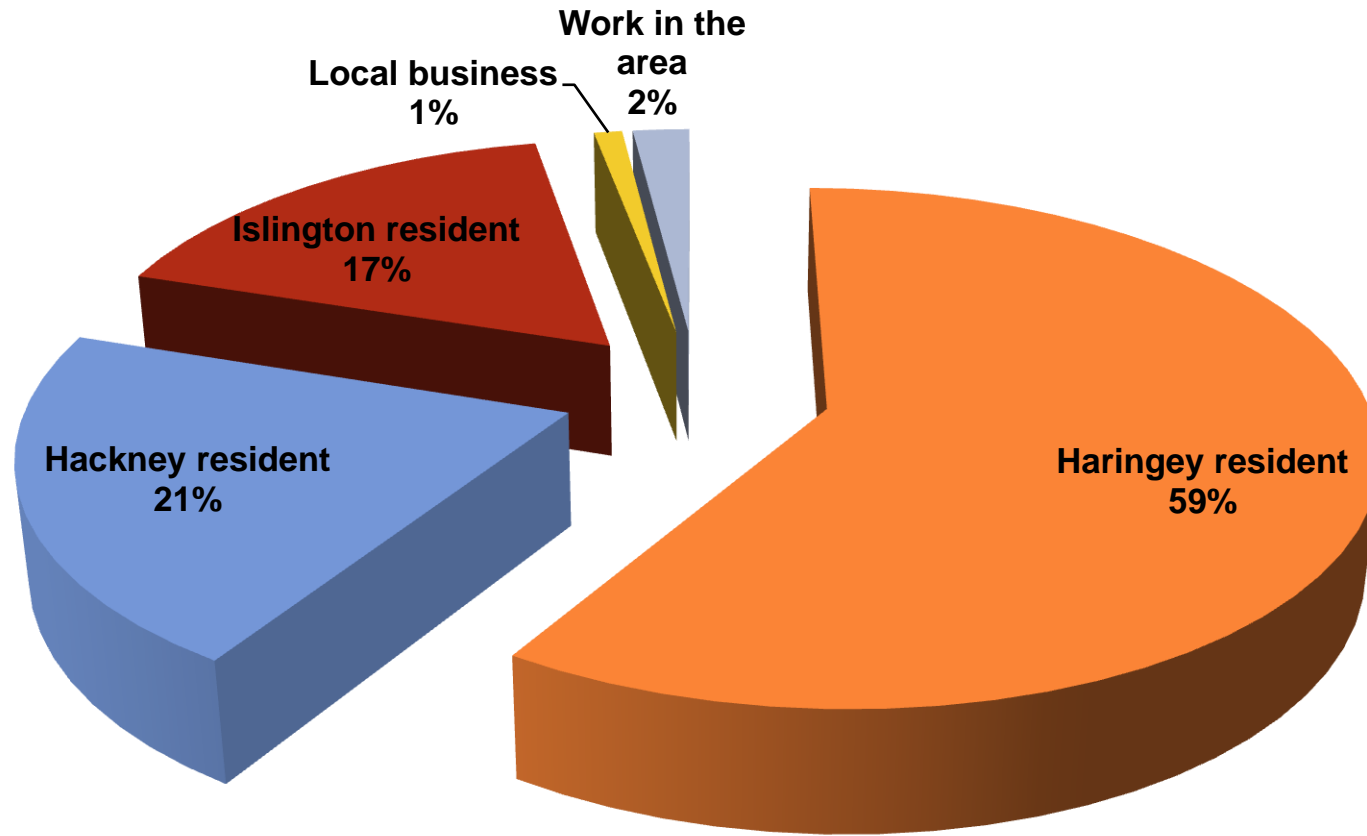
RESPONSES

- On line survey received **222** completed responses
- In total, **775** individual qualitative responses received to various questions



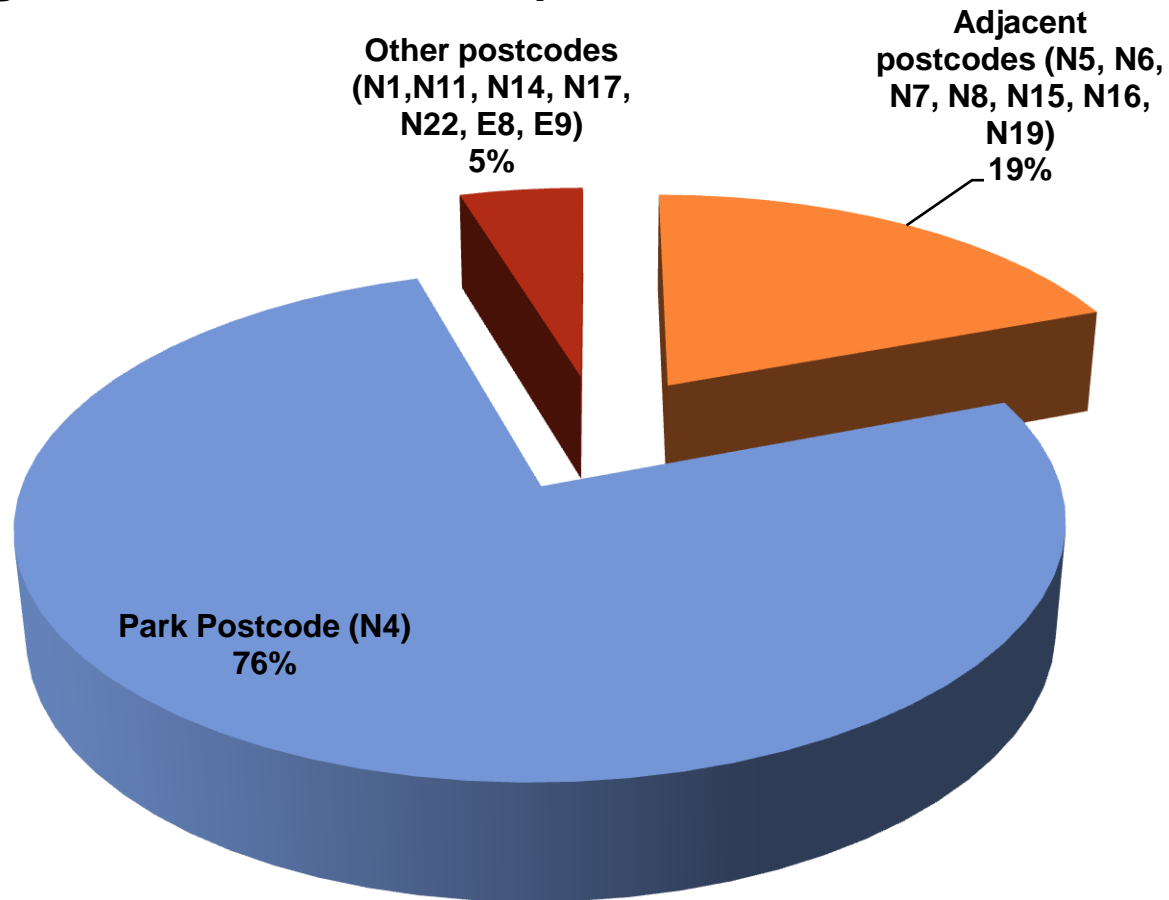
AREA OF RESIDENCE OF RESPONDENTS

Figure 1 - About those who responded (total 222).



POSTCODE OF RESPONDENTS

Figure 2 - Postcode of respondents

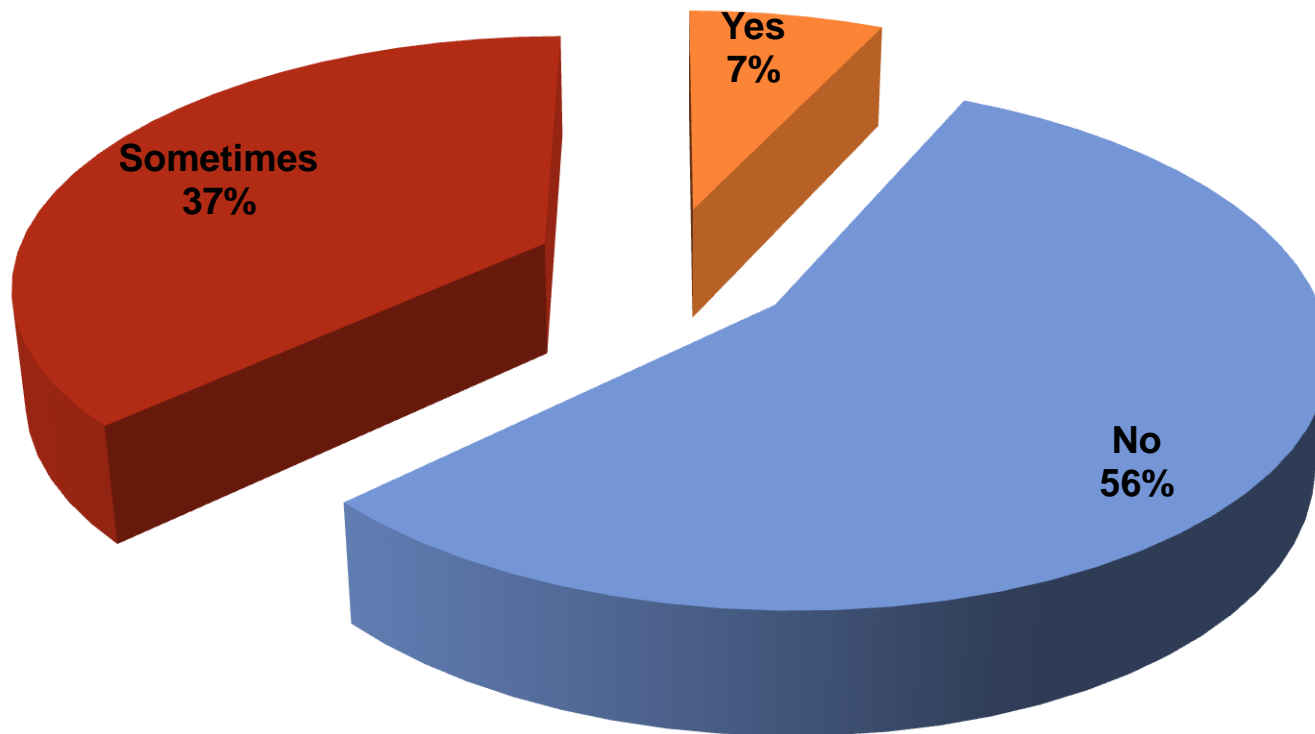




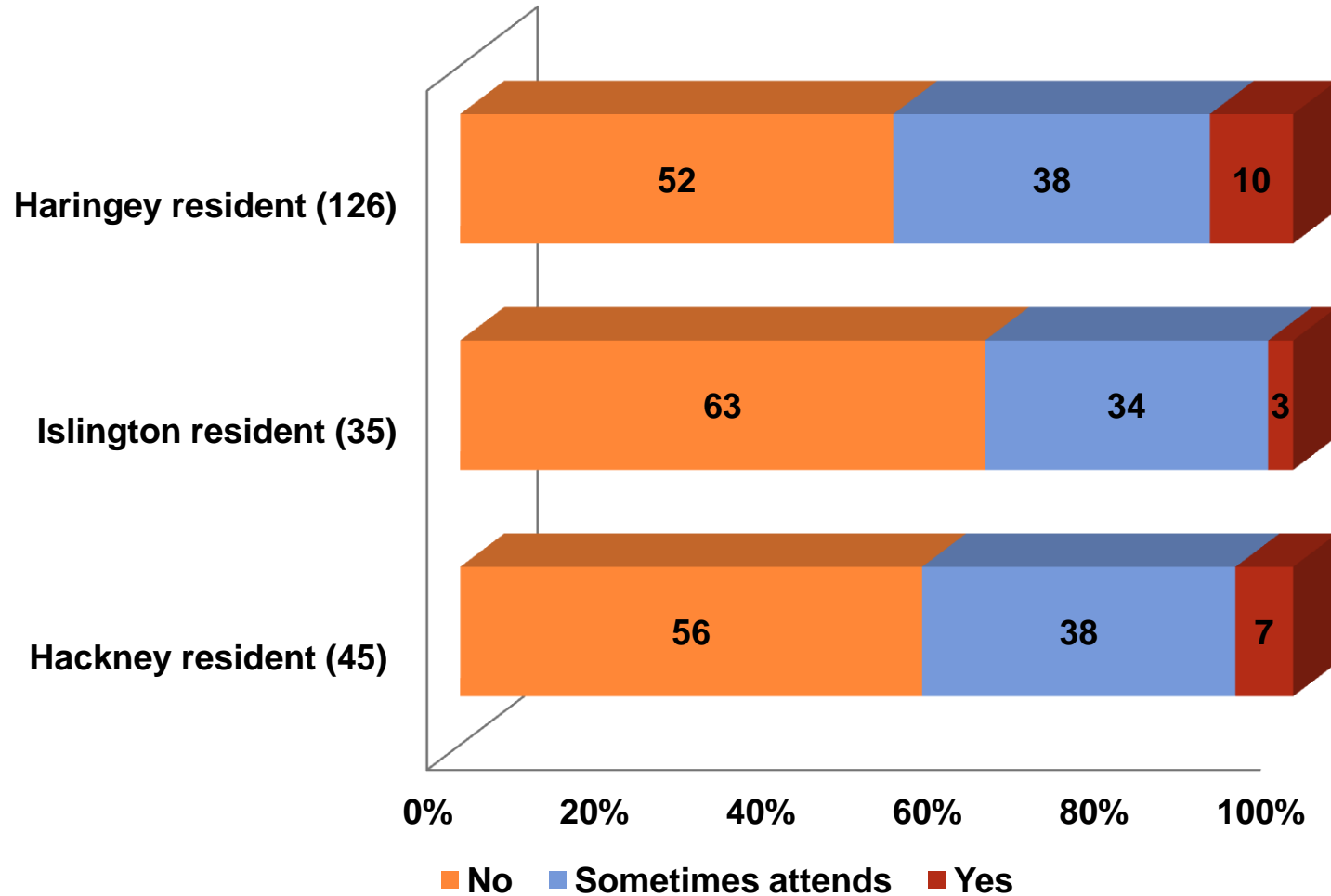
**HAVE YOU ATTENDED AN EVENT AT
FINSBURY PARK?**

EVER ATTENDED AN EVENT AT FINSBURY PARK?

Figure 3 - Have you attended events at Finsbury Park?



ATTENDED EVENTS – AREA OF RESIDENCE



WHY DON'T YOU ATTEND EVENTS AT FINSBURY PARK?

○ **Responses**

- 121 qualitative responses

○ **Key themes**

- Events not of interest
- Too expensive
- Unaware of events
- Some events are out of control/ feel unsafe
- Events are not pitched at the wider community
- Park should be preserved as a green-space



NOT INTERESTED IN ATTENDING

- *I have never attended large events as they inevitably involve loud music which I don't like.'*
(Haringey resident)
- *'Not my thing - they are only ever rock music.'*
(Haringey resident)
- *'They are not events I have any interest in attending.'* (Haringey resident)



TOO EXPENSIVE

- *'Can't afford it.'* (Islington resident)
- *'Too expensive.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Cost of ticket.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'I haven't attended events that I've wanted to go to in Finsbury park this summer because they are incredibly expensive.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'The tickets are very expensive and no residents' discount has been offered.'* (Hackney resident)



UNAWARE OF EVENTS

- *'I am usually unaware of the events in the park until they start putting up barriers. I only use the Hornsey Tavern Gate entrance....and since it is not a major entrance there is never any advertising. There is never any notification to the local residents of events in the park either.'* (Hackney resident)
- *'I never have a complete list of events and only know the big ones.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Too expensive and there is little publicity as we're not Haringey residents.'* (Hackney resident)
- *'.... apart from the Wireless event I am not aware of any other events in the park.'* (Haringey resident)



TOO CROWDED, BUSY OR FEAR OF ASB

- *'Large crowds of people do not appeal to me personally and are not good for an already densely populated area.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Not to my taste, seem out of control and unsafe.'* (Hackney resident)
- *'These noisy events are too big for the park and better suited for areas that are not so built up. I hate dealing with the crush.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Too loud and too many people, do not feel safe.'* (Hackney resident)



NOT PITCHED AT WIDER COMMUNITY

- *'I don't fit the demographic for events like Wireless - over 60s not really catered for.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Because they all seem to be geared to people in their early 20s, e.g. fun fairs or excessively loud music concerts.'* (Islington resident)
- *'They are not really aimed at families with young children.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Too noisy and for young people only.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Almost all events not community based and don't really benefit the local communities in the three boroughs surrounding the park. The big events like Wireless are inappropriate, exclude residents from the amenity and generate noise, anti social behaviour and wreck the infrastructure of the park.'* (Hackney resident)



PARK SHOULD BE PRESERVED AS GREEN-SPACE

- *'Not my scene. I prefer the park to be a place of peace and quiet and natural beauty in the midst of our urban sprawl.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Noisy events which take up a lot of time and space are not what I want or expect in a public park.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'I use the parks as an open space in which people can play games, walk and enjoy its natural beauty.'* (Haringey resident)



A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide. It features a large orange circle at the top left, with several smaller orange circles of varying sizes arranged in a vertical line to its right. The background is a dark blue-grey color with a vertical band of lighter blue-grey on the far left, containing several thin, vertical lines in shades of orange and white.

WHAT EVENTS HAVE WORKED WELL AND WHY?

Specific events that worked well, characteristics of
events that worked well

WHAT EVENTS WORKED WELL

- It was evident that most events held within the park had at least some support among respondents, this included the following:
 - Funfairs, Circus, Cycling, Fleadh, Wireless, Funfair, Gay Pride, Arctic Monkeys, Routemaster, Hidden River Festival, Stone Roses, Bob Dylan, ParkRun
- However, some respondents (n=17) were clear that no events worked well and were an intrusion on the park:
 - *‘None of them.... they were all too noisy disruptive and prevented us from using the park that we pay council tax for.’ (Haringey resident)*



WHAT EVENTS WORKED WELL – WIRELESS

- *'Wireless is better than other gigs / music events as there seems to be more concern for the well-being of local residents.'* (Haringey Resident)
- *'It was a good idea to keep the road open for cyclists and pedestrians during the time that a lot of the park was out of use.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Wireless - Sound wasn't much of a problem at all.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'The wireless festival: they kept pretty well to rehearsal times and stopped playing at 10.15 at night. I was pleased that the exit to the parkland walk was closed earlier in the day.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Wireless - the whole thing was well managed, disruption kept to an acceptable minimum and overall good for the area.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'My personal criterion for success is whether they clear up all litter and rubbish and I think Wireless did this reasonably efficiently.'* (Haringey resident)



WHAT WORKED WELL - WIRELESS - BETTER THAN LAST YEAR...

- *'Wireless Festival. Much better than last year in terms of noise control. Good in terms of leafleting re: parking and rubbish schemes.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Wireless clean up much better than last year and better provision for pedestrians and cyclists.'* (Haringey resident)

WHAT EVENTS WORKED WELL - ROUTEMASTER

- *'The route-master event is popular, and works well in the space used.'* (Hackney resident)
- *'Celebration of the Route Master. Good atmosphere, family friendly event which did not block off the park to users not wanting to engage with it. I would have been happy to pay for this event but it was free which was a real bonus. Not only were there buses on display but also refreshments stands and stalls. Generally a well thought out event which attracted lots of positive comments locally.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'The Routemaster celebration. Open to all, free, left no mess or damage to the park. Didn't prevent access to any part of the park.'* (Islington resident)
- *'Routemaster Bus Festival 2014 1. Left a very light footprint and it appeared to have only a small impact on the Park's fixtures and fittings.'* (Haringey resident)



WHAT EVENTS WORKED WELL - CYCLING

- *'Cycling event/route-master event - free entry through the park, no barriers or fences in place, very temporary (1-2 days) and causes only minor inconvenience to regular park users.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Recent cycling event - small and fun for the kids.'* (Hackney resident)
- *'Sky cycle ride. Very low impact but it was fun.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Small, low impact, free and inclusive.'* (Hackney resident)



WHAT WORKED WELL – NEW (HIDDEN) RIVER FESTIVAL

- *‘New River Festival - planned well in advance, community given chance to be involved, diverse, community focussed.’ (Haringey resident)*
- *‘A small local event that worked really well.’ (Hackney resident)*
- *‘Hidden River Festival 2014 - it worked as it was community based with lots of local people attending. It was also family friendly and small scale.’ (Hackney resident)*
- *‘The New River festival (2 years ago) was not too large, family friendly, well run, and not intrusive to those not attending. It was cleared up quickly and efficiently.’ (Haringey resident)*
- *‘Celebration of New River - worked well because it was a small, local event. Lots of stalls, people eating, drinking and listening to music in a relaxed, family atmosphere.’ (Haringey resident)*



WHAT EVENTS WORKED WELL - FLEADH

- *'The Fleadh!! Small enough to limit the local impact but incredibly good fun. Gay Pride!! As above' (Haringey resident)*
- *Fleadh - appropriate for the size of the park, appealing to a mixed age group, didn't cause too much disruption or damage to the park, didn't take over the park, both in terms of length of set up/take down, and in terms of area occupied.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Fleadh various years in the 1990-2000s. It lasted only two days, had entrance and exits well organised and the noise outwards was sufficiently muffled to cause little nuisance.'* (Hackney resident)



WHAT EVENTS WORKED WELL — CIRCUS AND FUNFAIR

- *'Funfair is well organised and managed.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'The circus in the park the last 2 years, particularly this year by the seven sisters road area of the park, it didn't, take up a lot of space, was not causing a noise nuisance in the area or being disruptive for the use of the park, and it doesn't, bring a lot more vehicles in to the park, and the funfair, again it isn't causing excessive noise nuisance, or taking up a lot of space in the park.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Fun fairs, Cycle events. Low key events with an appropriate number of people. Easily put up and cleared away, not taking up too much space in the park.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Circus, takes up small section of park, not intrusive.'* (Haringey resident)



WHAT WORKED WELL – ARCTIC MONKEYS / STONE ROSES

- *'Well contained and good security.'* (Hackney resident)
- *'Arctic Monkeys was great - seemed to be managed well.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Stone Roses, Arctic Monkeys gig. One or two night events only.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Stone Roses gigs - started early evening, well managed/good security, only lasted a couple of nights, attendees seemed respectful of the area, the noise levels were acceptable and it finished at a decent time.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Single day rock concerts such as Arctic Monkeys, Stone roses....bearable as the park was not completely shut down. Barriers went up but they where restricted to the amphitheatre area of the park.... The concert was only a few hours of one day which meant the disruption overall was minimal.'* (Haringey resident)



CHARACTERISTICS OF SUCCESSFUL EVENTS

- Advance notification
- Continued access to the park for local residents
- Continued cycling route through the park
- Big music festivals
 - Temporary (one or two night events for large concerts)
 - Limited noise impact
 - Well managed – good security
- Events that have a small footprint within the park
- Low impact on park green-space
- Events focused on local community
- Small scale events
- Good post event clean-up operations





WHAT DIDN'T WORK WELL AND WHY?

Specific events that didn't work well, characteristics of these events

WHAT EVENTS DIDN'T WORK WELL?

- Responses focused almost exclusively on Wireless...
- Of the 172 qualitative comments provided in response to this question – approximately 125 (75%) mention Wireless as an event that didn't work well in Finsbury Park
- More generally other events that didn't work well were other large concerts..... (e.g. Stone Roses) where residents appeared to experience similar issues
- Minor concerns about funfair – frequency, rubbish and accessibility (cost)



WHAT DIDN'T WORK WELL – WIRELESS (1)

○ Noise

- *'Wireless Totally unacceptable noise intrusion for 4 days with impact on our own experience of leisure time including often being unable to listen to music at home without hearing music from Finsbury Park. Walking near the park - on Green Lanes - the sound levels were extraordinarily high and unacceptable. There had been no attempts to use technology to bring down the noise levels.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'The Wireless festival since it has been in Finsbury park, the very loud thumping repetitive bass music that this event contains and the abusive racist lyrics / language that occurs from artists / DJs at this event.... '* (Haringey resident)
- *'Wireless 2015 Noise seemed much louder than for previous concerts - on Endymion road I couldn't hear my own TV over it. It is a disturbance not just on the days of the event but beforehand and afterwards. And this time on two consecutive weekends. I don't think it's acceptable.... '* (Haringey resident)
- *'There needs to be a lot more effort on noise control.'* (Islington resident)
- *'Its too noisy for too long, its all day and all weekend.'* (Haringey resident)



WHAT DIDN'T WORK WELL – WIRELESS (2)

○ Poor security

- *'Wireless 2015- terrible security, park badly damaged, attracted terrible clientele. Made me feel unsafe in my own home. Drastically under estimated number of people and potential trouble.'* (Hackney resident)
- *'The security was lame at best, demonstrated by the crowds storming the event. Security did nothing to stop a festival goer from opening the gates to a crowd of people. It was simply out of control. I think the security were poorly trained and inexperienced.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Security of the event was appalling, I saw security staff sitting down and doing nothing. The event organisers and security staff owe it to everyone to create a safe environment.....for those who have bought tickets, those living in the area and those trying to gatecrash the event. There should have been more security staff patrolling around the perimeter fence to stop people climbing over.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'There is no security presence in the spill over to local streets.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'I was told by a few of the security guards/stewards that there had been attempts to push/pull them off the bikes for the bikes to be hi-jacked (mostly during the evenings). They also told me that they had never been as scared in their work as at this particular weekend, having had blades pulled out on them and that there were far fewer police on duty than previous years, apparently because 'Wireless' wanted to keep the policing cost down.'* (Islington resident)
- *'The security was hopeless.'* (Hackney resident)



WHAT DIDN'T WORK WELL – WIRELESS (3)

○ ASB/ lower level criminal activity

- *'Wireless - noisy disruptive and very dangerous - it attracted a crowd of lawless thugs who tried to force their way in and who present a significant danger to other park users local people and property.... '* (Haringey resident)
- 'Wireless is fast becoming a dread for us each year it's getting more violent and more disruptive each year events like that should be held in a field in the middle if no where not in a well used public park. (Haringey Resident)
- 'The Wireless festival resulted in scores of underage drinkers in the area.. (Islington resident)
- 'There was drug paraphernalia in the surrounding streets. (Haringey resident)
- People were openly drug dealing in the grass space between the hoarding and the perimeter fence.' (Hackney resident)
- '.... the lawlessness around the park - there is footage on Youtube of an unruly mob trying to break in; travelling along Seven Sisters Rd several hours after curfew it was like the wild west.' (Haringey resident)
- Personally witnessed a hoard of people trying to scale the barriers. Saw video clip of this which was actually worse than I thought- i.e., male with a knife, security guards and police massively outnumbered, violence used, one girl seriously injured. (Haringey resident)
- 'The attendees came out at night when the event is finished but don't always go home. They wander the area making a lot of noise and continue drinking.' (Hackney resident)



WHAT DIDN'T WORK WELL – WIRELESS (4)

○ Takes up too much of the park

- *'Wireless - outside of the area where fenced-off cycle track was provided, the behaviour and driving standards of contractors was generally very poor. Speeding and hazardous driving was endemic.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'The Wireless "festival" does not work well. It takes up too much of the park with much of the enclosed space given over to catering. The event has now become notorious for public disorder, public nuisance, damaging a Grade II listed park, anti-social behaviour, poor or non-existent egress management.....'* (Hackney resident)

○for too long

- *'The set up and take down are also very noisy, starting early and going on until late in the night. Generally I would say this event causes at least 3 weeks of severe disruption to me.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Wireless 2015: large sections of the park were sectioned off for almost 27 days. This created inconvenience as the park could no longer be easily used as a safe, car-free cut through for cyclists... Whilst the music of the concert did not bother me hugely, I was bothered by the park being severely restricted for 27 days, with a large, forbidding steel fence, just for the sake of 4 days of music. This is completely out of proportion.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Wireless Festival - Far too noisy, excluded me and my family from a large section of the park for almost 3 weeks over the hottest part of the summer... .'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Wireless Festival caused myself and many people I know to avoid using the park for almost a month, while the barriers and putting up, taking down, were in place. It made the park feel more like a hostile environment than the haven which is usually is to so many people living locally who do not have outside space they can use where they live. Such disruption cannot be justified.'* (Hackney resident)



WHAT DIDN'T WORK WELL – WIRELESS (5)

○ Too large for the park... especially one located in a residential area

- *'Wireless festival - far too many people and their transport packed into a small and already densely populated area. Locals cannot use the park while festival is on. Noise too loud. Park left in bad state.'* (Haringey resident).
- *'The park is just not equipped for this scale of event.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'The Wireless festival is too big for Finsbury Park.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'For me, a resident very near to the park, the noise wasn't the key problem. It was the sheer number of people in and around the station for the whole weekend and the litter, smashed glass, antisocial behaviour and mess that they brought with them. There was a real sense that this area just isn't up to coping with the sheer numbers involved.'* (Haringey resident).
- *'My main issue with Wireless is the size of it in comparison to the park. It is too big and it's not controlled. The other events in the park have been very different. Even though parts of the park have been shut of it has been a minor irritation rather than a terrifying experience.'* (Haringey resident)

○ Disruption to local residents...

- *'None of the events are successful for the residents who have to endure the inconvenience of crowds, litter, noise and travel disruption, and including at the recent Wireless event, unpublicised fireworks for which I was unable to prepare my pets for.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Wireless are too large, too unmanageable, too noisy and cause considerable disruption to park users and the local community.'* (Haringey resident)



WHAT DIDN'T WORK WELL – WIRELESS (6)

○ On site vehicles (safety, speeding)

- *'I was nearly hit by a Live Nation buggy at one point. The two men driving it can round a blind bend at speed. The area by the basketball courts was also dangerous, with blacked out SUV's driving up and down that road at speed. They paid no attention to the 15 MPH limit and the people monitoring that area did nothing about it.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'HGVs in the park are dangerous for cyclists and pedestrians, and cause traffic problems on Endymion and surrounding roads without warning.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'The quad bikes used by 'security' were not sticking to the 10mph limit although I was assured by several, that they had been told the bikes were fixed at a max of 10mph.'* (Islington resident)

○ Not enough toilet facilities

- *'..... not enough toilets at wireless event so hundreds of people peeing against the sides- I was there, I saw them- people are paying a lot of money and twice as many portaloos should be provided so that people don't need to queue I had 4 trips to the loo whilst there and probably spent about 45mins or more in total in queues-as I was only there for 5hour max out of my £70 ticket cost- that was about £15 worth of time. No excuse.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'The Wireless festival was poorly organised. It resulted in a lot of people breaking into our private gardens and urinating on them without any wardens to stop them and to point them towards the location of the loos.'* (Hackney resident)



WHAT DIDN'T WORK WELL — WIRELESS (7)

○ Damage to park / State in which the park was returned

- *'I regularly exercise in the park and the level of litter remaining (fragments of glass, cigarette butts etc) is unacceptable and a danger to local residents that wish to use the park throughout the year.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'The grass was ruined.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'The main problem is the failure to clean up properly. There is still broken glass all over the festival location and I still have to pick bits up before sitting down. It used to be somewhere kids could run around barefoot and sit down for a picnic safely.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Couldn't walk the dog or take the kids onto the grassland for weeks due to 1) the smell of urine that pervaded for a very long time and 2) the "clean up" entailed a mower going across the grass shredding beer glasses so that the actual grassland was full of shards of plastic for months.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'The festival was detrimental to the park in all aspects. I have seen many photos and I am horrified at the unnecessary harm to trees and the open grass areas that was caused.'* (Haringey resident)

○ Impact on park users (groups)

- *'I felt sorry for the Parkrun community - about 200 runners who use the park every Saturday morning. I believe they had to cancel their event for 3 consecutive weekends. It would be good if there was a way to allow Parkrunning to continue.'* (Haringey resident)



WHAT DIDN'T WORK WELL — WIRELESS (8)

○ Impact on local transport

- *'The tube station was unusable all weekend.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'...the effect on the local infrastructure. The traffic was terrible in the entire surrounding area on event days, buses were diverted.'* (Haringey resident)

○ Parking / traffic management

- *'There were people parked up in my street overnight sleeping in cars and others who had clearly stayed out all night.'* (Hackney resident)
- *'It caused major disruption to the local traffic in the area.'* (Islington resident)
- *'... The Wireless festival produced ridiculous traffic jams in the area with car horns tooting in blocked side roads up until 1am.'* (Islington resident)
- *'... on one night there were traffic jams until the early hours, closed roads, people wandering the streets not knowing how to get home as the tubes had stopped. I had to help two teenage girls who had travelled here from Manchester find a way of getting back to their hotel in Stratford.'*
- *'Shutting the roads after Wireless was a disgrace. None of the stewards were familiar with the area and could tell us how to get from one side of the park to the other, where I live, in a car. I am 6 months pregnant and was told to park (where, exactly?) and walk. The knew the names of none of the main roads in the area, including Stroud Green Road or Fonthill Road. It took me over an hour to complete what should have been a 3 minute drive.'* (Islington resident)
- *'Hackney parking restrictions not in force for event days for Wireless festival. I am disabled resident and disabled bay outside my home and one across the road in continual use as soon as I left home. There was nowhere near to park and as I cannot walk any distance my partner had to take my car down the road to park when I returned home and collect it for me to go out the next time.'* (Hackney resident)



WHAT DIDN'T WORK WELL – WIRELESS (9)

○ **Accessibility of helpline /support / noise team**

- *'I tried to phone the onsite number, but it was not working. Complained to Council on both occasions, but the out of hours number is someone on the end of a phone somewhere else in the country who had never even heard of Finsbury Park.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Complaints since I am a Hackney resident I am unable to complain to Haringey about any of the noise or issues that affect me during this or any other event. Hackney are unable to take complaints as the festival is held by Haringey the events complaints line was a single person with a mobile phone who sometimes did answer and other times did not. We were also refused reference numbers so there is no way to follow up any of the complaints moving forward.'* (Hackney resident)
- *'Poor response from help-line despite previous nights call.'* (Haringey resident)





SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

OPTIONS TO IMPROVE FUTURE EVENTS

- 192 (87%) respondents chose to respond – indication of depth of wanting to engage to improve future events
- That being said, a fair proportion of these suggestions were ‘*to hold no large scale future events*’

OPTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT – DO NOT HOLD LARGE EVENTS

- **Don't hold large events in the park – relocate (multiple responses)**
 - *'They should be relocated in the centre of London and not in a local park where they spoil the use of the park by its many regular users.'* (Haringey resident)
 - *'Hold them in Hyde Park not in a local neighbourhood park which is needed for local people who need it more.'* (Haringey resident)
 - *'Do not hold such events in Finsbury Park. It is not the appropriate location for mass music events. There are other locations - sports and entertainment stadia in particular which are suitable - they are designed for such activities and have all the facilities in place, and cause minimal if any disruption to local communities such as ours in Haringay.... '* (Haringey resident)
 - *'Stop having them. They are horribly disruptive for local residents and increasingly intimidating.'* (Haringey resident)
 - *'I do not want to see any more large events such as the Wireless Festival in Finsbury Park.'* (Haringey resident)



OPTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT – TIMING RESTRICTIONS FOR FUTURE EVENTS

- **Quicker set-up and take down**

- *'Quicker set up and take down of major events should be demanded from organisers.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'..... set up/take down should not take up any weekend time.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Strict future enforcement build up and take down time - finding minimum possible.'* (Haringey resident)

- **Restrict duration of future events**

- *'Events should not be on Sunday nights - I don't mind Friday and Saturday but children have school on Monday and they couldn't sleep for 2 Sunday's as it went on till 10.30pm.'* (Hackney resident)
- *'Events should be restricted to one-weekend only.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Events not to last longer than 2 days (it's unreasonable to expect residents to put up with such noise levels for any longer than this) music events to be either afternoon events, or evening events, but not both... '* (Haringey resident)
- *'Maximum of two nights for an event.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'They should never be more than 2 consecutive days, and one weekend day should always be event-free..'* (Haringey resident)

- **Restrict times at which future events can perform**

- *'Only have events that last for one day, not a whole weekend. No events midweek. Events should stop around 9.30pm to allow local traffic and other disruption to die down before 11pm, and to allow festival-goers to get home ok... '* (Haringey resident)
- *'Pop concerts should be limited to two days maximum and not start before 5pm on Fridays and mid-day on Saturdays including sound checks. Concerts must finish by 9pm on Sundays.'* (Haringey resident)



OPTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

IMPROVED SECURITY, POLICING & STEWARDING

- **Improved security and policing**
 - *'More policing (not provided by the Met but by the company organising the music gig).'* (Islington resident)
 - *'Better policing of the park in the lead up to events, so no impromptu "concerts" take place. It should be anticipated that there will be a lot of interest in the park leading up to an event, and if the police don't care/are too busy then the event organisers should pay for security.'* (Islington resident)
 - *'... Larger police presence.'* Hackney resident)
 - *'Way more security staff needed no control over crowds. Way more policing needed, it was clear there was a lot of criminal activity on going.'* (Hackney resident)
- **Improved management of crowds entering and leaving the park**
 - *'People leaving the events is an issue when they disrupt local residents late at night by cutting through local estates making noise, urinating and generally adopting ASB. Crowd management needs reviewing... '* (Islington resident)
 - *'... event organisers to pay for security/policing of the area until the majority of the crowd has dispersed. Organise dispersal similar to that of match day security at the Emirates.'* (Islington resident)
- **Improved stewarding**
 - *'....a much stronger police presence is needed and stewards should be familiar with the area and have a large number of route maps to handout to drivers on the night. Stop the festival goers walking in the roads.'* (Islington resident)



OPTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT – NOISE RESTRICTIONS

- **Improved arrangements to monitor and reduce noise**
 - *‘As this is densely packed residential area, the legal noise limit should be lowered, especially on days when people are likely to want to spend time quietly in their gardens.’ (Haringey resident)*
 - *‘.... the noise level to be reduced (currently the bass reverberates throughout the flat, even with all doors and windows closed, and it is impossible to use the garden – and yet apparently this is within the council noise limits).’ (Haringey resident)*
 - *‘.... Wireless this summer was extremely loud - sound checks take no account of wind direction. Usually music levels are fine - Wireless levels were unacceptable.’ (Haringey resident)*
- **Improved transparency about noise levels**
 - *‘Publication of sound levels from sound monitoring (and acceptable / target levels) on notice boards in the park (and web site). This might enable informed discussion about noise to be had in planning for future events.’ (Haringey resident)*



OPTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

SCALE OF FUTURE EVENTS

- **Reduce maximum capacity for larger events**
 - *'Events should be single stage limited to 30,000 and contained within an agreed demarcated area....' (Hackney resident)*
 - *'Limited to single days with a much smaller footprint of less than 20,000 people. Only held on a max of three occasions a year.'* (Hackney resident)
- **Hold more smaller events**
 - *'I am happy for there to be a lot of small scale events, but the large ones ruin the park, take too much of the park for too long, ruin my life for the duration of the concert...'* (Haringey resident)
 - *'Only allow small, short duration events which will attract local people.'* (Hackney resident)
- **Fewer large events**
 - *'I disagree with many that no events should take place in Finsbury Park at all. I know it is an income generation issue and the Council must make use of as many assets as possible to raise revenue. However, I feel that the event policy should be revised to decrease the number of events, especially very large events such as Wireless..... Large events cordon off a portion of the park making it unwelcoming and visibility jarring. Additionally the promoters have to wrap Stroud Green School gates and railings in plastic so that rubbish and urine don't get into the schools. This is not what I want for my neighbourhood. Please promote our park for events which have a lower impact on the park and users but can still generate income.'* (Haringey resident)



OPTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT – IMPROVED ACCESSIBILITY / CONSULTATION

○ **More information about park events**

- *'I also think that the council should have warned the local residents ahead of the summer season, by telling us the date(s) of all events in the park that would mean parts of the park normally open to the public would be temporarily closed, and give a phone number of someone to contact should they have any questions. It's just about transparency and treating residents like adults!'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Sufficient publicity and notification to park users and local residents.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Better publicity of what is on, as we only get to hear about the dreaded wireless.'* (Haringey resident)

○ **More notice to local residents**

- *'At least two months notice to local residents of any events to be held in the park via post to the homes. Over the last two years I have not received a single notice through my door about any events happening in the park.'* (Hackney resident)
- *'We book for concerts a year in advance and for the theatre months in advance. The Haringey website rarely if ever gives much advance warning at all. If these events are to be indicted upon us a really good system of advance warning is required.'* (Hackney resident)

○ **.....with Hackney residents**

- *'More consultation with Hackney residents, We feel left out in the cold.'* (Hackney resident)

○ **Improved in-event support**

- *'.....when an event is taking place, the Council should have appropriate staffing in place in order to listen to and deal with complaints and there should be sufficient policing in place to ensure the safety of event goers and local residents. This is currently not being done..'*



OPTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT – EVENTS INCOME

○ Improved transparency - income

- *'Publication of amount of income generated from events and how it is spent in Finsbury Park.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Revenue generated reinvested into park in transparent and consultative way.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'It should be made clear to all about how much money is raised from each event, and how that money will be spent - in particular, how much will be spent making the park a nicer place to be - and how much will be spent on cleaning up.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Make the accounts for such events public and transparent - how much of the money from Wireless went to restoring the damage in the park and improving facilities.'* (Islington resident)
- *'...transparency of money receive by the council and profits thereof. Where any money is spent. Information on penalties for promoters failure to meet contract times etc'* (Haringey resident)
- *'There may be greater acceptance of the use of the park for the various events if it was clear that all money generated was reinvested into the park. If the events are simply a revenue generating exercise for the council in general, then I do not believe the disruption and reduced access in anyway are justifiable.'* (Islington resident)

○ Need to be convinced that income is sufficient from events to justify

- *'If there was any evidence that the costs of these events did not fall on council costs the people may be more convinced. However there is no evidence that the Council obtains a commercial income or has a contract that requires the events to fix their damage or that income is reinvested back into the park.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Money from the events should be used to make improvements and these should be advertised so that local residents can better understand what the benefits are.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'MOST importantly, the income from these huge events MUST be put back into our park, it doesn't seem to be at the moment and the park is suffering badly for it.'* (Haringey resident)



OPTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT – TRANSPORT

○ Improve parking restrictions

- *'Implement parking restrictions to protect residents parking.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'If residents' parking zones are to be brought into force over weekends for events then signage needs to be put in place and proper enforcement should take place.'* (Haringey resident)

○ Tube access

- *'Finsbury Park station too over crowded.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'The wireless festival was a fiasco - visitors could not get to me by public transport for 3/4 days. It was ludicrous.'* (Haringey)

○ Local road restrictions

- *'Don't close Seven sisters road, allow traffic management gates to be open, keep same parking restrictions as for other events such as football matches. Ban cars from parking, make public transport part of ticket/organisers conditions.'* (Hackney resident)

○ Maintain cycle path

- *'The cycle route through the park should be maintained along its full length.'* (Haringey resident)

○ Organised transport arrangements

- *'Not allowing large organised transport i.e. coaches to use local roads as pick up points- house windows open during summer mean lots of noise with people hanging around waiting for their transport.'* (Hackney resident)



OPTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT – MINIMISE PARK IMPACT - SUSTAINABILITY

- **Improved clean up post event...**
 - ‘Considerable damage was done to the park an important resource for communities, fencing was down and damaged, trees were harmed. The park is still not in a good state after Wireless. This is unacceptable..’ (Haringey resident)
- **Improved clean up during event...**
 - ‘.....start the cleaning up process immediately and have people cleaning the park during the night. It is unsightly to walk through the park the morning after and see all the debris left behind.’ (Haringey resident)
 - ‘More investment in cleaning up during events and cleaning up and restoration after events, not just in Finsbury Park itself but in every street between all Station exits and Finsbury Park.’ (Haringey resident)
- **Temporary rubbish bins**
 - ‘...with only one litter bin nearby, [event attendees] used our bins. The following week was 'green' only collection and many bins were overflowing by the following week. Could I suggest that more temporary litter bins be placed around the area and that the dustbin collection to also include the 'normal' rubbish bin regardless of whether it's due that week or not.’ (Haringey resident)
- **Ban glass containers within the park**
 - ‘.... ban glass bottles and glasses - I have found literally handfuls of broken glass shards all over the grassy areas where kids play football and people sunbathe when the events happen the wooden fences within the park are closed for a long time either side of the event....’ (Haringey resident)
- **More toilet provision outside the park**
 - ‘Should probably have more urinals outside the enclosures though.’ (Hackney resident)



OPTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT – COORDINATION WITH OTHER EVENTS

○ With events at Emirates stadium

- *'How much co-ordination is there about avoiding having events at the Emirates Stadium as well as in Finsbury Park? I am not aware of any such conflicts but is this luck or good management? If the former then a good management system with Islington is needed!'* (Hackney resident)
- *'Make sure Finsbury Park events don't happen too close to Emirates events - the local disruption and congestion from those is sometimes as bad as those from F Park events. Having events two weekends in a row from either venue would be too much.'* (Islington resident)

○ With other local events

- *'I attended a concert of baroque music and spoken word in a church in Stroud Green which was the highlight of the Stroud Green festival on the same evening as a Finsbury Park event, and it was swamped by waves of sound coming from Finsbury Park. Completely unacceptable. This just highlights how insensitive and inappropriate the holding of such events in the Park is.'* (Haringey resident)



OPTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

LOCAL BUSINESS INCLUSION

○ **Affects local business..... Additional costs**

- ‘Dramatically affects our business. Less customers travel to Finsbury Park. I need more security at the front door which costs us money. So wireless costs....(us).... money (many thousands of pounds) We had no assistance from marshals to patrol the exterior of our building.’ (Local Business)

○ **More support local traders – food venues concessions**

- ‘It would be good if the surrounding area were also encouraged to participate, so local businesses could also benefit from the visitors.’ (Haringey resident)



OPTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

COMMUNITY INCLUSION

○ Discounted tickets for local residents

- *'I think cheap tickets should be offered to us local residents affected by events- otherwise I think a good job is done as well as the profits get put back into the parks.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Introduce a ticket scheme for local residents.'* (Hackney resident)

○ Widen range of events on offer

- *'Try a series of evening concerts throughout a week with a varied bill to allow more people to participate, rather than a minority.'* (Haringey resident)

○ Include residents in the event...

- *'..... more [events] aimed at local people, with local people getting opportunities like selling the food and drink- Wireless was just a nightmare imposed onto us for the benefit of people from elsewhere, without the local community seeing any benefit.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Wireless 2015: I think as borough if you are going to allow such a large scale festival to happen you need to ensure that locals are allowed to be involved. One idea would be to work with the promoter and allow local teenagers/young adults to work in exchange of free tickets to the event. Or to give a limited of number of tickets away to people that wouldn't necessarily be able to afford such high ticket prices.'* (Haringey resident)





OTHER ISSUES

OTHER ISSUES – FINSBURY PARK AS LOCAL RESOURCE

- Finsbury Park is a precious local resource
 - *‘The Park was given into Haringey's care by the GLC - please care for it - it was a Park for Finsbury - for the benefit of all our lungs... Haringey has successfully applied for Lottery money to develop the Park, please do not trash all that.’* (Haringey resident)

CONCERNS ABOUT GENERAL STATE OF PARK (VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES)

- *'Finsbury Park needs looking after. Its feeling a bit lawless and litter ridden at the moment. I think there needs to be a better 'park keeper' presence in the park in order to guide and help the park users. The litter situation is also a bit out of control at the moment and needs to be addressed. Happy to organise volunteers to do this.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'The wooden fence that surrounds the park is regularly being broken in places and gaps keep being made in the fence, recently metal gates have been installed near the manager's office and by the railway bridge entrance to the park off Oxford road, n4, it would be more effective to have a metal fence around the park. The park is having graffiti on bins and benches etc which is not getting cleaned off which is affecting the look of the park. Volunteer cleaners would help keep the park cleaner.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'Finsbury Park could do with an overall clean up. The roads and paths could all do with relaying. In the summer there's a lot of rubbish left by the public. The drainage could also be improved: the section by Seven Sister Road where there's a gate and Traffic Light Crossing (near Finsbury Park Tube and Liddl) gets flooded every time there's heavy rain.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'It appears that the money Haringey makes from these events isn't re-invested back into the park. The rubbish bins are often overflowing, the park never seems to be cleaned, like Clissold Park in Hackney. We haven't had flowers in the flower beds for years. Re-invest some of your money into the park, make it a clean, happy environment for your local tax-payers?'* (Islington resident)
- *'I would like more money going back to the park. I have lived backing the parkland walk for 35 years. The park looked very nice years ago, looks neglected now.'* (Haringey resident)



BALANCE COMMUNITY AND INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

- *'Give us back our park!'* (Haringey resident)
- *'I love the fact that events happen in Finsbury Park. I love to hear the music from my balcony as I like the thought of people in the open air enjoying themselves.'* (Haringey resident)
- *'In a diverse area such as ours, there's inevitably going to be people who want the park quiet, all for themselves. But inevitably there are also going to be people who enjoy outdoor events and what better alternatives are there in a dense city such as ours? The consultation process needs to factor these diverse interests in and find a way of making the events workable. I recognise that it's not all about meeting my person needs, but finding a balance of meeting the needs of a very diverse community.'* (Haringey resident)



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Terms of Reference – Finsbury Park Events Stakeholder Group

1. Introduction

A new extended stakeholder group is being established following the Overview & Scrutiny Committees review of the Cabinet decision of the 17th December 2013 to approve the new Outdoor Events Policy for Haringey.

The Stakeholder Group is responsible for the oversight of the implementation of the Outdoor Events Policy within Finsbury Park.

The key roles of the stakeholder group are divided into five main areas:

1. Providing comments on proposed events within the park
2. To review and comment on initial and final draft event management plans for major events.
3. Monitoring the delivery of major events and providing feedback to all event organisers post event.
4. To identify lessons learnt from the annual programme of events and agree recommendations for improvement.
5. To review implementation and propose amendments to the policy annually as set out in the Outdoor Events Policy 2014.

The stakeholder group will specifically focus on:

- Event management arrangements for each major event
- Provisions for non event goers
- Communication and information
- Setup and Takedown periods
- Minimising public nuisance
- Overall Programme
- Lessons Learnt

The stakeholder group will comment on the overall programme and those parts of each major event management plan directly affecting residents, local businesses and park tenants. Comments will be used by Parks Officers to inform either contractual arrangements or inform the view of the Safety Advisory Group (SAG) in relation to licensable activity which is part of an event.

2. Function of stakeholder group

The stakeholder group, in commenting and providing input to the individual events, will also have in mind the aims of the outdoor events policy and how they are demonstrated in the delivery of each event.

The stakeholder group shall look to the following aims being achieved:

- Demonstrate best practice in all aspects of event management, including the event application process.
- Ensure that a sustainable number of events are permitted.
- Minimise, mitigate and manage the impact on parks and open spaces and surrounding areas.
- Encourage events that have strong community benefit and engagement and, where necessary, remove barriers.
- Support community event organisers and parks and open space user groups through the development of a streamlined event application process and up-skilling event organisers.
- Improve communication and engagement with residents and business

3. Principles and definitions

The following principles will apply to the stakeholder group:

- The views and input of each stakeholder is of equal value.
- The outdoor events policy will be the reference point for any comments or recommendations.

4. Membership

1. Chair – Cabinet Member for the Environment
2. Friends of Finsbury Park
3. Stroud Green Residents Association
4. Highbury Community Association
5. Ladder Community Safety Partnership
6. Manor House Development Trust
7. Harringay Green Lanes Traders Association
8. Finsbury Park Trust
9. Finsbury Park Tenant Representative
10. Ward Councillor – Stroud Green
11. Ward Councillor – Harringay
12. Haringey Parks & Leisure Services
13. Haringey Licensing Officer
14. Metropolitan Police Service
15. Officer – Hackney
16. Officer – Islington

5. Meetings

Agreed Meeting dates:-

9th April - Live Nation Presentation, SJM written resident briefing
 3rd June – SJM Debrief, Live Nation final resident briefing

Draft Meeting Dates:-

Early August – Live Nation Debrief

October – Review of 2014 and recommendations for 2015

6. Agreed Major Events 2014

SJM – Arctic Monkeys 23rd & 24th May.

Live Nation – Wireless Festival 4,5,6th July.

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APPENDIX 2

RECOMMENDATIONS

No.	Recommendation
1.	<p>The Cabinet Member for Environment is recommended to work with the Council's Communications Team to develop a communication plan providing stakeholders, in Haringey, Hackney and Islington, with greater transparency about how income from events held in Finsbury Park is used. This should include circulating information at the end of September, the end of the event season*, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Confirm how much money is generated from events held in Finsbury Park; (b) Make clear that all income from events is ring fenced back to the parks budget; (c) Identify how local residents, businesses and ward councillors can contribute to decisions on how income from events is spent, including work in other local parks; (d) Provide information on how money from previous years has been spent, including updates on projects and improvements. <p>(*In view of the timing of this scrutiny report, for 2015, it is recommended that this information is shared with local stakeholders as quickly as possible.)</p>
2.	<p>The Head of Direct Services is recommended to develop a Frequently Asked Questions document for Finsbury Park Events. This should be made available online via the Council's website http://www.haringey.gov.uk/finsbury-park by the end of December 2015 with consideration given to how this information could be used to develop the communication plan (recommendation 1 above).</p>
3.	<p>To help manage the competing needs and opinions of different stakeholders, including those from neighbouring boroughs, the Cabinet Member for Environment is recommended to review the terms of reference for the Finsbury Park Events Stakeholder Group. This should be completed before the end of December 2015 with consideration given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Setting up two distinct groups – one for local residents and one for local businesses – to ensure feedback from both is used to help with event planning and to address local concerns around major events. (b) A ward councillor from Harringay or Stroud Green being nominated as

	<p>the Chair.</p> <p>(c) Ensuring fair representation from all the groups participating.</p>
4.	To ensure local stakeholders, including ward councillors and residents, in Haringey, Hackney and Islington, are aware of all the events that take place in Finsbury Park, the majority being community or charity based, the Head of Direct Services is recommended to work with the Assistant Director of Communications, to review how information about future events is shared (electronically or otherwise) to ensure greater awareness of all events.
5.	The Committee welcomes the Council's commitment to review the way in which noise at Finsbury Park is monitored. It is recommended that the independent acoustic consultant's findings and any action to be taken by the Council as a result, be made available to all stakeholders, before the end of December 2015, to make the monitoring process more transparent and better understood.
6.	Moving forward, it is recommended that as part of the process for developing an Event Management Plan further consideration should be given, by the various agencies and event promoters, to the location and design of speakers and stages to help minimise noise disturbance.
7.	The Head of Direct Services and Licensing Team Leader are recommended to work with the Feedback and Information Governance Team to review the process for logging event complaints. There should be one point of contact to: (a) enable appropriate and timely responses from the Council, event promoters and/or other agencies to complaints received from residents in Haringey, Hackney and Islington; (b) enable greater understanding of the issues raised; and (c) ensure lessons can be learnt from the feedback received.
8.	<p>To ensure improvements are made in relation to crowd management, including security and stewarding, it is recommended that the Safety Advisory Group gives consideration to the following issues when advising on future major events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The need for all relevant agencies to be in the control room during an event. (b) The security arrangements for both in and outside the park should be reviewed. This should include consideration of increased police resource and importantly the use of more SIA accredited stewards who can work alongside council officers. (c) In addition to stewards receiving appropriate briefings from event promoters stewards should also receive a briefing from council staff to ensure local knowledge / information about the area is passed on.

Appendix 2 – Recommendations

	<p>(d) Resources should be set asides to ensure stewards, working in pairs with suitable local knowledge, can provide a visible presence in local side roads, ensuring sign posting to public toilets, public transport and other local facilities.</p> <p>(e) The introduction of a robust three-stage entry system, using the existing site footprint, to improve ingress arrangements minimising the opportunity for anyone to enter the site without a ticket.</p>
9.	The Head of Traffic Management is recommended to review Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) arrangements to ensure they are appropriate for events held in Finsbury Park with consideration given to CPZ timings being consistent across the three boroughs during events.
10.	As part of the licensing process each event promoter should be asked to submit additional information, as part of their Event Management Plan, to explain how the take down and handover process will be managed and signed off. This should include information concerning the street cleaning (and bin collection) schedule for streets affected across Haringey, Islington and Hackney.
11.	Following the take down, the Head of Direct Services is recommended to develop a recovery action plan. This should: (a) list any damage, recorded as part of the post event site inspection; (b) detail the repair work that's required (with costs); and (c) provide clear dates for the completion of each maintenance task. This information should be shared with stakeholders (making it clear that the cost of any damage is paid for by the event organiser, not the Council).
12.	<p>To limit the impact events in Finsbury Park have on the local community it is recommended that:</p> <p>(a) Summer holidays should continue to be excluded from any major event booking period and importantly Finsbury Park should be returned, and be in full use, before the start of the summer holidays;</p> <p>(b) The number of events (five) and duration (a maximum of three days per event), allowed in the policy, should not be increased any further;</p> <p>(c) Policy implementation should ensure in practice that no more than two successive weekends are used for major events between the end of the May half-term and the start of the summer holiday period, and that no more than two successive weekends are used after the summer holiday period until the end of September;</p>

Appendix 2 – Recommendations

	<p>(d) Any events held in Finsbury Park during September should be smaller (than the June/July events) with a maximum capacity of 20,000 to ensure better coordination with other events, such as football at the Emirates Stadium;</p> <p>(e) That events held on a Sunday should always finish no later than 10.00pm.</p>
13.	<p>The Committee notes that retailers selling tobacco are obliged to comply with various legislative measures and new national regulations that restrict the display of cigarettes and point of sale advertising of tobacco. With this in mind, and in addition to the licensing process for Finsbury Park, it is recommended that (a) it becomes a condition of hiring the park that any tobacco stalls should be as plain as possible (e.g. no bright colours or lights) to help prevent the promotion of smoking; and that (b) any evidence arising from this year's events in relation to tobacco products be reviewed by the Licensing Team Leader in advance of future events.</p>
14.	<p>The Cabinet Member for Environment is recommended to develop a 3-5 year programme of events for Finsbury Park to enable all stakeholders to better prepare and plan for events.</p>
15.	<p>In developing a 3-5 year events programme for Finsbury Park the Cabinet Member for Environment is recommended to give consideration to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Delivering events that reflects the diversity of Haringey's population. This should include providing opportunities for local artists / bands to show case their talent during events held in Finsbury Park. (b) Using the expertise and knowledge from across the council to deliver a mixed and diverse range of events that help the Council to achieve objectives set out in the Corporate Plan. (c) The provision of event space for local community groups, charities and businesses to promote their work during events. (d) Encouraging more members of the public, including community groups and charities, to hold events in the park. (e) Working with event promoters to identify opportunities for work experience and volunteering. (f) Working with event promoters to enable the Council and local Jobcentres to signpost, and help local residents gain skills required, for jobs that become available during events held in Finsbury Park. (g) Working with event promoters to ensure local businesses have

Appendix 2 – Recommendations

	<p>opportunities to take part in events, e.g. catering, and looking at how the Council can support local businesses overcome any barriers identified.</p> <p>(h) Providing a discounted/lottery ticket scheme for local residents.</p>
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