

To whom it may concern

Durham Constabulary wish to object to the attached Temporary Event Notice on the grounds that to grant it would undermine the crime and disorder, public Nuisance, public safety and protection of children from harm objectives

This notice would allow up to 499 people to attend a music event in a field on the outskirts of Darlington, whereby the applicant is wanting the sale of alcohol and the provision of regulated entertainment from Thursday 21st July 2021 to Sunday 24th July 2021 with the hours for each day being Thursday 18.00 – 23.00, Friday 14.00 – 23.00 and Saturday & Sunday 12.00 – 23.00.

When consideration is made around any applications received I will liaise with the neighbourhood policing teams who have responsibility for policing the area where the event will be held and also Sgt Morgan who is the operational and contingency planning sergeant. One of Sgt Morgan's roles is to review events on behalf of Durham Constabulary, providing a report as to the public safety and security of these events, and also to represent the force on the Safety Advisory Groups.

The points below have been raised as concern to Durham Constabulary around the granting of the Temporary event Notice.

- There is no information to suggest that this planned event has been through the Safety Advisory Group, or whether there has been consideration for this to take place, given the scale of the proposed event being up to 499 people over 4 days consisting of daytime and night-time events and what measures are in place to limit the numbers to 499.
- There is no information documented anywhere on the application in terms of what risk assessments have been made, are intended to be made, or how the safety of those attending and the wider public has been considered with any proposals for mitigation of harm. The applicant has in fact stated on the application exact schedule of events is still to be confirmed but will be sent across as soon as everything is confirmed once the license is granted.
- There is no documentation as to the security of the event, and the wider public. No considerations are evidenced about SIA staff at the site, or whether there is going to be any kind of entry/exit/control measure to restrict the wider flow of people, or mitigation of non-authorised alcohol or drugs misuse

- There is no evidence documented as to what measures will be put in place as to minimise any noise and anti-social behaviour issues, or any complaints procedure against the event/organiser and how these would be dealt with.

In relation to public safety the location of the event is a rural location on a main A class road, with a 70mph speed limit, reducing to 50 about 200m east of the entrance roundabout. There is a short stretch of footpath, after which there is just a grass verge. Durham Constabulary concerns are:

- No event management or traffic management plan submitted, or consultation prior to submission of TEN, to enable an assessment of the event to be made.
- Potential for vehicles dropping off and collecting to park up on the A68 or at the caravan showroom
- Potential for members of the public to walk along the A68 and other roads (Burtree Lane etc.), many of whom will be under the influence of alcohol
- Potentially 499 people attending each event, with some afternoon events too, which may see additional traffic flow at the location and potential congestion at the roundabout
- No public transport option to access site
- Rural location- what is in place to prevent persons taking short cuts across fields
- Emergency / Evacuation plan- how will emergency services access the site

During the consultation period the applicant has been contacted in relation to the TEN and asked to provide further details of what the schedule of events are going to and to provide the event management and traffic management plans for the proposed event for Durham Constabulary to review.

The applicant has provided the below schedule and has provided an Event Management Plan which is for another event they held at Redcar Ruby Club.

Thursday 22nd - comedy bingo & Krowd Karaoke

Friday 23rd DJ

Saturday 24th Day time party boppers (childrens entertainment)

Saturday 24th Evening DJ

Sunday 25th Darlington Gay night c/w drag queens

The information provided has not alleviated Durham Constabulary concerns around the event, as we are still unable assess the event security, traffic management and safety arrangements for the event planned in a field on the outskirts of Darlington.

The schedule of events do not provide adequate information to ensure the licencing objectives will be upheld in particular the protection of children from harm as the times requested of Friday 14.00 – 23.00 and Saturday & Sunday 12.00 – 23.00, would suggest this event aimed at all ages and the applicant has stated Saturday and Sunday afternoon will be children's / family entertainment, however information provided for Friday states DJ and no information around the family entertainment. This event is taking place in the Summer school holidays so the potential for children to attend may be increased, there is no breakdown of the times of the events or any mention as to what time children will be allowed on the site.

Due to the number of concerns around the event in relation to public safety, the potential for crime and disorder, public nuisance and protection of children from harm Durham Constabulary cannot support this application.

Thankyou

Caroline

Sgt 484 Caroline Dickenson

Licensed Economy Team Sgt

Safeguarding Neighbourhoods Command

Durham Constabulary

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