

THAMES VALLEY POLICE

Division/Station : HQ South

From : Laura Morris
Licensing Department

To : Cherwell District Council
Licensing Department

Ref : Application for a premises licence

Date : 1st August 2014

Tel.No. 01865 846150

Subject :

Objection to Application for premises licence for Homegrown Music Festival Chesterton

Thames Valley Police are objecting to the application for a premises licence for Homegrown Music Festival due to concerns over the application not upholding the Public Safety objective of the Licensing Act 2003.

The event management plan (EMP) that has been produced for the Safety Advisory Group has not addressed some of the concerns in relation to Public Safety.

- Concerns over the safety of members of the public walking along the road. [Those who do walk will be on a 60mph road with no pathway. The verge being cut down will only be from the BSA to the site gate.](#)
- Concerns over the safety of vehicles exiting and accessing the site with only one entrance/ exit.
- Safety of persons on foot crossing main entrance to access stairs but no mention of what type of stairs. [Marshalls at the gate will need to allow access to vehicles allow vehicles to exit and allow pedestrians to cross all without causing traffic on the highway.](#)
- Concerns that the drop off point is within the site therefore creating concerns of people exiting vehicles early and walking , causing traffic and or collisions and causing issues with persons wanting to exit when traffic is entering.
- If persons do not wish to wait to exit the site in a vehicle this could cause disorder.
- There are also concerns that pedestrians are entering at the same place that vehicles are entering and it is a single track ramp with steep slopes on either side.
- Fire risk assessment not supplied at time of close of licence application.
- Concerns that the Event management plan states that marshalls will notify Control if traffic starts building up but no mention of what will be done about it.

Due to all of the above Thames Valley Police feel that a grant of the licence in its entirety would not uphold the licensing objectives. Our concerns that granting the licence with conditions, is that these conditions would need to be adhered to at very short notice. Due to the event being held so close to the hearing would this be achievable by the event organiser?

Email from John Croxton Thames Valley Police Traffic Management

History

The location of this event is between Akeman Street and the M40, where an overbridge carries the road south towards the B430 cross roads junction

I have interrogated the last five year STATS 19 collision data and found one fatal and three slight injury collisions at the crossroads junction. This I understand is the preferred access/ entry for the event which causes me concern. Some collisions are due to overshoots from the side road but others involve rear shunt and overtakes typical of this layout.

Road Safety

Site lines and visibility to and from the access areas are limited by the domed aspect of the motorway bridge. Traffic approaching in either direction may be confronted by queues and or pedestrians in the road which offer real hazard potential.

Traffic speeds on the main highway may vary and will only be controlled by traffic levels without other measures to temper them, in adverse weather conditions queue lengths could pose safety hazards with rear shunts and higher than safe speeds.

Access and egress may be hampered by the nature of the routes and difficult access points which appear steep narrow with limited width for mixed traffic in/ out bound from the plan. Pedestrians on the main highway without provision of footway segregation pose real hazard potential with turning movements at the access areas.

Conclusion

I concur with TVP colleagues in this application where road safety must be upheld with appropriate control measures at a difficult site not apparent from the documents I have received.