

## **Sound And Noise Management Plan**

### **Over view**

We have used the code of practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts produced by The Noise Council as reference to produce this document for the event at BA14 OHX.

Controlling multiple sources of audio over a large area with many different and unpredictable elements at play is not an exact science. Because audio is affected so greatly by pressure, moisture in the air, the ground it travels over, wind speed, direction, audience numbers, location, temperature etc. we have put in place this plan to monitor and manage the levels on and off site to minimise disruption to the local area.

### **Audio Running Times**

**1200 - 1300** Sound checks

**1300 - 0200** Live and recorded music from multiple sources

**0200 - 0400** All stages finish music. Only audio source will be the bar at low level.

**0400** Site silent

### **Levels**

Audio levels will be limited 96Db at all control points across site during main stage show hours. After 2am we aim to be inaudible off site.

### **Audio Sources**

Where possible we will use line array systems hung at height, pointing down at the crowd to increase system control instead of point source systems.

Tent 1.	Main Stage, DJs + MCs & live music
Tent 2.	Second Stage, DJs + MCs
Tent 3.	Small Stage, DJs
Bars.	Low level recorded audio

### **Pre Production, System Orientation & Site Design**

Prior to the event we have undertaken a site visit taking careful consideration of topography, residential areas and any potential disturbance. Taking all these factors into consideration we have chosen to orientate all systems North Easterly. This direction has been chosen as it has the greatest amount of open, uninhabited land in the area therefore causing least disturbance. Whilst we are aware audio emanates from 360 degrees around a system the direction the systems are pointing is essential to off site levels during show.

Residences within 1km are being spoken to directly by the festival management and their needs are being taken into account on an individual basis as we believe these properties and residents deserve increased communication and also potentially special arrangements.

### **Contact and Invitation to Site**

6 weeks prior to the event all residences within a 2km radius of the event will be contacted in person and / or mail by the festival management team. The letter will include:

- ⤴ Information about the event
- ⤴ Demographic
- ⤴ Impact on the local area
- ⤴ Noise restrictions
- ⤴ 24hr contact number to the event management team
- ⤴ Postal address for the event management team

The reasons for this are to inform as much as make the residents aware of potential disturbance. We believe making residents aware of what's going on empowers them in that they have some sort of control should they feel they are being unduly disturbed. We find in many cases this is constructive to the community and eases issues during the show.

The letter will clearly explain that the festival management team at all times have control of all systems, plans are in place and remedial action can be taken should we disturb residents too much.

Included in the letter will be an invitation to come to site on the day of the show. The residents will be invited on a site visit with the site manager and the festival management team. Any further questions or concerns will hopefully be put to bed at that point. It should also serve to a friendly point of contact for residents, knowing the face and friendliness of the staff has the habit of putting people fears to bed.

#### **Noise Management Team + Equipment**

Nick Roberts – On site event liaison contact

Bryan McLean – Off site sound engineer

They will be using Class 1 decibel readers calibrated before and whilst on site to ensure accuracy throughout. The noise management team draw on a wealth of experience, Nick in the Royal Borough of Greenwich, as a former Olympic council and running shows in densely populated areas this job comes as a particular challenge, as does his work with South Gloucestershire Council. Bryan comes from 15+ years engineering and is widely known in the industry as a true professional. Some of his notable noise management comes from Boomtown Fair controlling some 30+ systems at Matterley Bowl over a large rural area with reasonable population under tricky licensing conditions.

#### **Pre-Event**

Decibel readings prior to the show will be taken on and around the site. This will give us our base level reading to show us what impact the event is having once running.

#### **Show management**

During all show hours the festival management team have employed a highly skilled audio engineer to monitor levels on site and off site at given locations. Please see appendix 1. This shows all off site locations. The engineer will monitor what levels are at these locations and make an assessment of frequency and level to ensure the audio isn't concentrated in one place or causing more of a disturbance in one area over another. The engineer will have constant contact with all FOH engineers and the festival management team to respond to issues from off site and have levels changed in a heartbeat if necessary. This channel of communication will also be available for complaints to be relayed to the off site engineer.

Should there be a complaint the off site engineer will respond immediately by going to the location and taking a reading. If remedial action is possible then and there, removing frequencies, lowering the level for an MC, etc. it will be advised to site and action taken via the festival management team. Should the engineer find the disturbance is low level they may decide no action is necessary. Either way the engineer will attempt to meet the complainant and allay any concerns then and there making them aware we are constantly monitoring and adjusting the systems on site to cause least disturbance off site. Should there be any further complaints the issue will be sent onto the festival management team.

### **Post Event**

All levels and any complaints will be logged by the engineer throughout the event. In the event of any dispute the recordings will be available for the inspection 7 days after the event.

### **Other Action Taken**

Signs will be placed along all exit points and at the bus collection point to make sure that persons leaving keep noise to a minimum so not to cause disturbance to local residents. We will also be utilizing our security and stewards to make sure that this is enforced. Sweets and non-alcoholic drinks may be distributed to assist.

Where possible sound dampening equipment will be used to soak up off site noise before it even leaves the site.

If necessary we will employ cardioid array and ambisonic systems should we feel this is of real benefit to off site levels.

### **Council Inspection**

Tickets and inspection of the site is available for council staff before and during show hours. Consultation with the noise management team and the festival management team is available at any point. Please get in touch with [Mark@████████████████████](mailto:Mark@████████████████████) as first point of contact.