

From: Freegard, John

Sent: 18 April 2013 12:16

To: Golledge, Kate; Jones, Maggie; Carter, John; Steady, Graham; Wilkinson, Annabel; Grant, Lisa

Cc: Daniel Hurring

Subject: FW: Written representations maintained from Public Protection on noise grounds

Dear All,

I have now had the opportunity to carry out a visit to the Thoulstone area and assess all of the noise information attached and would therefore make the following observations:

1. The highest predicted daytime Music noise Level(MNL) is 56dB at Spinney Farmhouse(470m from the main stage) and so the recommended 60dB noise limit would seem to be reasonable. On visiting the site, however, we could see that there are two cottages that are closer(approximately 200m) to the main arena and we can see that the festival have deemed these properties to be 'desensitised' on the map below?
2. We do not know what this means and can only treat any residential properties as noise sensitive receptors, so will therefore need to know the impact here. Thoulstone Cottages is also shown as 'mostly desensitised'? Again, this will need to be explained.
3. As I have stated in previous emails, we would be reluctant to agree to a 'blanket' daytime 60dB MNL at all noise sensitive receptors if the predicted impact falls way below that level, but am happy to agree a condition of 5dB above the predicted levels as is the approach at Spinney Farmhouse above. We would always consider weather conditions/wind speeds and would obviously not take formal action if a breach was caused by 'high winds'. We could not, however, support a condition that is almost 15dB above the predicted level as this would not be protecting the public and would give too much leeway to the festival.
4. With regard to the propagation spreadsheet calculations, I am very sceptical as to whether some of the resultant levels can be achieved. As well as using distance attenuation calculations, the festival have also included other factors such as stage orientation, air absorption and soft ground absorption which in some cases amounts to between 21 and 24 dB reductions(excluding distance) at receptor positions. I feel that this is extremely optimistic and remain unconvinced that such reductions can be realised.
5. I am also concerned that the festival is over four days and nights(after 23:00hrs,up to 02:00 hrs) with regard to the playing of music, as I would have expected a festival of this type to be 3 days only. The 39 daytime hours stated below would also have the 9 hours of clearly audible night-time music added on.
6. In summary, my concerns about the length and loudness of this festival remains and I therefore maintain my written representations on noise grounds.
7. If a licence were to be granted, I would recommend the following noise conditions be attached to the operating schedule:

MNL 60dB 12.00 to 23:00 hrs Friday 31st May, Saturday 1st June, Sunday 2nd June

MNL 50dB 23:00 hrs to 00:00 on the same days

MNL 45dB from 00:00 to 02:00hrs on the Saturday and Sunday mornings

Music to be inaudible outside residential receptors after these times

Applied to Thoulstone Cottages and Spinney Farmhouse only.

MNL 57dB 12:00 to 23:00 hrs Friday 31st May, Saturday 1st June, Sunday 2nd June

MNL 47dB 23:00 hrs to 00:00 on the same days

MNL 42dB from 00:00 to 02:00hrs on the Saturday and Sunday mornings

Music to be inaudible outside residential receptors after these times

Applied to Chalcot house only.

MNL 50dB 12:00 to 23:00 hrs Friday 31st May, Saturday 1st June, Sunday 2nd June

MNL 40dB 23:00 hrs to 00:00 on the same days

MNL 35dB from 00:00 to 02:00hrs on the Saturday and Sunday mornings

Music to be inaudible outside residential receptors after these times

Applied to Dilton Court Farm and Chapmanslade outskirts only.

The situation at the two cottages in Thoulstone will still need to be clarified for completeness.

Regards

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