DECISION NOTICE

Northern Area Licensing Sub Committee

Decision made on 26 April 2022

Application for a Premises Licence – Live at Lydiard, Park Farm, Hook Street, Swindon, made by The Culture Collective Ltd

Councillors:

Cllr Ruth Hopkinson, Cllr Peter Hutton (Chair) and Cllr Robert Yuill

Decision:

Arising from consideration of the report, the evidence and submissions from all parties who attended the hearing and made relevant representations and having regard to the s.182 Statutory Guidance, the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing objectives being the prevention of public nuisance and public safety, that the application for a Premises Licence in respect of Live at Lydiard, Park Farm, Hook Street, Swindon be REFUSED for the following reasons:

Reasons:

The Sub Committee were not satisfied that the Applicant would promote the Licensing objectives of the prevention of public nuisance and public safety of people attending the event.

The Sub Committee were concerned about the lack of evidence regarding crowd management for a one day event where 15,000 people would be attending, the lack of detailed evidence on appropriate traffic management to ensure the safety of people attending and leaving the event and the lack of consideration of the impact of the event on the local community area.

Whilst the Sub Committee acknowledged the intent of the Applicant who on paper had made strides towards addressing the issues of public safety and the prevention of public nuisance, unfortunately the Sub Committee did not have confidence the Live at Lydiard Event would be run in a safe manner promoting the Licensing objectives of public safety and the prevention of public nuisance (in particular with the proposed increase in numbers from around 9,000 to 15,000 for the 2022 event) for the public attending and leaving the event nor did the Sub Committee have confidence of the Applicant's management and operational team's ability to put in place appropriate traffic management to ensure the safety of the public attending the event in sufficient time.

The Sub Committee were not satisfied that the updated Event Management Plan which appeared to be unfinished and did not address key points on public safety would be properly implemented and the current traffic management plan did not have sufficient detail to satisfy the Sub Committee that the safety of the public attending the event either on foot or by motor vehicle or using provided shuttle buses from a car park some distance from the event would be appropriately addressed. The event would be taking place at a different venue this year and it was clear to the Sub Committee that the Applicant had also not sufficiently considered the impact of large numbers of people travelling to the event on the local community and the need for sufficient security to ensure the safety of the public using a narrow unlit rural road to attend the event. The Sub Committee were concerned there was lack of toilets and the risk of public nuisance arising from potentially long waits for the buses or other transport to take people home.

Having heard evidence from the representatives on behalf of Swindon Borough Council and parties who had made representations, including the Applicant and the Responsible Authorities, the Sub Committee did not feel there was sufficient time to put in place the necessary requirements to ensure the licensing objectives of public safety and prevent of public nuisance would be upheld for the August 2022 event.

The Sub Committee therefore concluded, on the basis of the evidence presented, that the application should be refused and that such a refusal was reasonable, proportionate and necessary to promote the Licensing objectives.

The Sub Committee also considered the relevant provisions of the Licensing Act 2003; the four Licensing Objectives; the guidance issued under Section 182 of the Act and the Licensing Policy of Wiltshire Council.

Right to Appeal

All parties have the right to appeal to the Magistrates Court within 21 days of the written decision. In the event of an appeal being lodged, the decision made by the Licensing Sub Committee remains valid until any appeal is heard and any decision is made by the Magistrates Court.