

Representation made by Environmental Protection on 7th June 2018 direct to IDOX

I refer to the application for Neverworld to take place between 02/08/2018 and 05/08/2018. I have concerns that the nature and extent of the proposed event will result in undue noise disturbances (from regulated entertainment) at nearby neighbouring properties (particularly Truggers Lane).

I do not consider that adequate consideration has been given to the extremely quiet nature of the area around the event venue and the night time Music Noise Levels (MNL) proposed by the applicant (35dBA at 1m from the façade of the nearest noise sensitive property) will mean that noise from the event is audible and potentially disturbing throughout the night. Whilst the soundscape of this area is dominated by aircraft overflights during the early evening (these are subject to wind direction and airport landing priorities) once these finish, background noise levels are naturally very low and therefore any uncharacteristic/ un-natural noise source will be very perceptible (even at unmeasurable levels) as a result of the psychoacoustic effect (i.e. human perception). The MNL suggested by the applicant will potentially be 10db(A) above this natural background level and so is likely to disturb sleep (with a window open for ventilation). Crowd noise (cheering and shouting) cannot be regulated and may occur throughout a performance. This may be highly noticeable

As demonstrated at last year's event, the MNLs proposed by the applicant are difficult to achieve whilst maintaining an acceptable experience for guests and consequently without careful and considered management may not be achieved at all times. It is unlikely that the Environmental Health Team will be able to provide sufficient cover to insure that MNL levels are adhered to throughout the night.

Therefore, in order for residents to be assured that they will not be disturbed throughout the night, I would request that a terminal hour be specified beyond which residents can be certain they will be able to sleep without disturbance from the event. I consider that this terminal hour should be significantly earlier on the Thursday night of the event as Friday will be a normal working day for most residents.

I do not consider that the application and supporting documentation provides sufficient reassurance that the licencing objective of 'The Prevention of Public Nuisance' will be met. It would be my expectation that the applicant would have suggested a number of appropriate conditions as part of their application which could be considered and critiqued by Environmental Health. Unfortunately the application does not suggest any such conditions.

With consideration to the above information; I wish to object to this current application on the grounds of Public Nuisance at this time.

In addition, enforcement powers within the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 are not appropriate for use at short term/ duration events unless there is a risk of serious personal injury. Whilst the applicant has made reference to the "Event Safety Guide", risk assessment of activities and relevant regulations and guidance, I do not consider that it has been sufficiently demonstrated that the licensing objective of "Public Safety" will be met.

Therefore if members are minded to grant this application it is requested that the applicant be required to produce an Event Safety Management Plan to be agreed a minimum of 2 weeks in advance of the event with partner agencies and the local authority. Any measures and steps agreed to ensure the safety of the event as part of this plan should be made conditions of any licence granted.