

ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

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25/05/2014

Your Ref:

Our Ref: SR/05154/14 Contact: Ketan Joshi

Application Ref. 222100864 Applicant: SSSSM London

Premises: Shree Swaminarayan Mandir, 211 Kingsbury Road, London, NW9 8AQ

Event site: Roe Green Park, Kingsbury Road, London, NW9

**Application: Temporary Event Notice** 

Date/times: 16/08/14-22/08/14

The Nuisance Control Team representations are primarily concerned with the prevention of public nuisance. I have considered the application above and I wish to put forward my objection to this event on the grounds that the likely effect of the grant of the application is detrimental to the Licensing Objectives.

The primary reason is the close proximity of local residential properties. Having visited the site and observed this proximity, it is my opinion, based on my experience in dealing with similar large scale events, that there is a high likelihood of complaints being received. It is also noted that the application is for an open air event which will be held over 3 days. I am of the opinion that the impact on local residents will be sustained and the likelihood of complaints may increase as the tolerance level for noise is likely to diminish over this duration.

The measures proposed by the applicant(s) in their original application for the prevention of public nuisance are listed below for reference and are, in my opinion, inadequate for upholding the Licensing Objective:

- 1. All patrons will be reminded of consideration to the public when leaving the premises
- 2. Notices to be placed in prominent positions to ask patrons to leave the premises quietly
- 3. Sound will be controlled and monitored to ensure the sound does not exceed the disturbance levels for the neighbours
- 4. Speakers will be angled to the audience and not outward to any external residential areas

During my site visit and meeting with the applicant(s), the above measures were discussed and it was acknowledged that in the event of a complaint being received, it would not be possible to mitigate noise nuisance with the original proposal of stage location on the south side of Roe Green

Park which is nearside to Kingsbury Road and approximately 50 metres away from residential properties.

As a result, the applicant(s) further proposed alternative measures:

- 1. Relocation of the stage to the north side of Roe Green Park (approximately 150 metres away from residential properties)
- 2. Site monitoring using sound level meters
- 3. Reduction in speaker noise output
- 4. Use of noise absorbing barriers (Echo Barrier)

It is noted that the application states "theatre style seating for 2000 people with standing area on the sides for the remainder of the audience". Considering this event is relatively large scale and expected to attract more than 2000 visitors, the above additional measures proposed by the applicant(s) would not, in my opinion, be sufficient to mitigate noise nuisance.

Stage relocation is unlikely to contribute to noise mitigation as the sound is likely to travel and still affect local residents. Furthermore, site sound monitoring with sound level meters would not be feasible. In order to accomplish this, maximum music levels would have to be set at a level that would not be audible at the site boundary of nearest residential property. Such levels would very likely be so low as to be impracticable for the applicant's purposes for the event.

Additionally, having considered the revised lower speaker specifications and use of Echo Barrier noise shielding techniques, I am of the opinion that noise mitigation in this instance would be difficult to achieve. To serve the applicant's purposes, the music would still have to remain significantly higher than background levels as it would have to be loud enough to entertain more than 2000 people. Also, this application has overlooked the additional noise that would be produced by the visitors; applause and cheering as would be expected at such events would also contribute to the noise levels. The use of noise shielding techniques would not be practical or wholly effective in achieving satisfactory noise mitigation.

In conclusion, it is my opinion that the site selected to host this event is unsuitable. The only way to effectively mitigate the noise levels would be to host the event inside a suitably designed acoustic enclosure; however, the feasibility of such a structure would be left to the discretion of the applicants.