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Report Version Issue Log	
Version	1
Date Reviewed	14 Apr 26
Reviewed By	<u>All Directors</u>



Report Number	Issue Date	Note or Change	Author	Reviewed	Approval for Issue
WTF26 Noise Plan – V1	24.03.26	V1	NM		CC

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Details of Event

This noise management plan (NMP) relates to the management of noise from the Wiltshire Throwback Festival (WTF26!), to be held at Oakfield Stadium, Eastern Way, Melksham SN12 7GU, between the 26th and 27th of June 2026 (hereby referred to as 'The Festival'). The Festival is to be operated by the Festival Production Team, managed by Jarboom.

The longest operational hours for the performance stages are understood to be as follows:

- Main Stage:
 - o Friday – 1600h-2300h;
 - o Saturday – 1300h-2300h.

1.2 Responsible Staff

WTF Noise Team will be responsible for the Noise Management of this event. The responsible person for the Noise Management will be Nico Menhhine, a director of Jarboom.

As Noise Management provider, WTF Noise Team will take the following responsibilities:

- Liaison with the Local Authority Enforcement with regard to the implementation of this Noise Management Plan;
- Enforcement of criteria requirements found within the Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts;
- Monitoring of Noise Levels (where required) in accordance with the Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts;
- Responding to complaints from members of the public relating to noise from the event; and
- Control of noise levels, including the switch off of amplified music, where required.

All production staff are to be made aware that failure to immediately follow instructions from the Noise Manager with respect to noise level will result in their immediate removal from their role and possible cancellation of that section of the event.

2.0 GUIDANCE

2.1 Consultation with Local Authority

At this initial draft stage, WTF Noise Team have not engaged Wiltshire County Council regarding the contents of the Noise Management Plan. Detailed engagement will occur further throughout the planning process.

2.2 British Standards and Guidance Documents

2.2.1 British Standard (BS) 7445-1:2003

The assessment of noise impact for this development has been undertaken by measuring external noise levels in accordance with the guidance detailed in BS 7445-1:2003 *Description and Measurement of Environmental Noise – Part 1: Guide to Quantities and Procedures*.

This document defines the basic quantities to be used for the description of noise in community environments and describes basic procedures for the determination of these quantities.

The methods and procedures described in this British Standard are intended to be applicable to sounds from all sources, individually and in combination, which contribute to the total noise at a site. This British Standard does not specify limits for environmental noise.

2.2.2 Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts

This Code is designed to assist those planning a music event and covers a range of events from single occasional concerts to a full season. Compliance with the set-out guidelines and advice will enable for a successful concert whilst keeping disturbance caused by noise to a minimum. It is recognised however that full compliance with this code may not eliminate all complaints.

The Music Noise Level (MNL) should not exceed the guidelines shown in Table 2.1 below at 1 meter from the façade of any noise sensitive receptor (NSR) for the events held between the hours of 0900h-2300h.

Table 2.1
Guidelines for Music Noise Levels, 0900h-2300h

Concert days per calendar year, per venue	Venue Category	Guideline
1 to 3	Urban Stadia or Arenas	The MNL should not exceed 75dB(A) over a 15-minute period
1 to 3	Other Urban and Rural Venues	The MNL should not exceed 65dB(A) over a 15-minute period
4 to 12	All Venues	The MNL should not exceed the background noise level by more than 15dB(A) over a 15-minute period

With respect to events continuing or held between the hours of 2300h-0900h, the guidance suggests that the MNL *“should not be audible at the noise sensitive receptors with windows open”*.

2.2.3 IOA Code of Practice – ‘Code of Practice on the Control of Noise from Pubs and Clubs’

For venues where entertainment occurs more than once a week, or beyond 2300h, the criteria in the stated guidance document are:

- Overall L_{Aeq} should not exceed the L_{A90} at the noise sensitive receptor;
- L_{10} should not exceed L_{90} in any 1/3 octave band between 40Hz and 160Hz.

For practicality, a comparison can also be drawn between the octave bands at 63Hz and 125Hz, which encompasses all but the lowest third octave band detailed above. This approach takes account of the potential lack of availability of source noise data and sound reduction data for glazing units in sufficient detail for a prediction in each third octave band.

2.2.4 IOA Good Practice Guide on the Control of Noise from Places of Entertainment

Submitted as a draft issue for consultation in December 2016, it should be noted that this document is not for public consumption and is not widely accepted as a guidance document at this stage. Nevertheless, this document provides a comprehensive overview of the relevant guidance and proposes a range of possible criteria to be met, relative to the specific context and conditions of the site in question. The intention of this document is to supersede the guidance within the *IOA Code of Practice on the Control of Noise from Pubs and Clubs* and is of particular relevance to sites such as this, where the context of the development does not appropriately reflect those within either of the two aforementioned guidance documents.

Table 2.2
Example of Noise Assessment Framework

Location	Time	Criteria
External	7am to 11pm	$L_{Aeq,5min}$ EN minus $L_{Aeq,5min}$ or $L_{A90,5min}$ WEN = 0 to +5dB(A)
		$L_{Ceq,5min}$ EN minus $L_{Ceq,5min}$ or $L_{C90,5min}$ WEN = 0 to +5dB(C)
	11pm to 7am	$L_{Aeq,5min}$ EN minus $L_{Aeq,5min}$ or $L_{A90,5min}$ WEN = -5 to +3dB(A)
		$L_{Ceq,5min}$ EN minus $L_{Ceq,5min}$ or $L_{C90,5min}$ WEN = -10 to +3dB(C)
Internal	7am to 11pm	EN = Noise Rating NR25-35 $L_{eq,5min}$
		$L_{Ceq,5min}$ EN minus $L_{Ceq,5min}$ or $L_{C90,5min}$ WEN = -10 to +5dB(C)
	11pm to 7am	EN = Noise Rating NR15-25 $L_{eq,5min}$
		$L_{Ceq,5min}$ EN minus $L_{Ceq,5min}$ or $L_{C90,5min}$ WEN = -10 to 0dB(C)

The document makes the following notes with respect to this framework:

“Note 1:

EN = Representative, or predicted, entertainment noise level,

WEN = Representative noise level without the entertainment noise, measured or predicted 1 m from the facade of noise-sensitive premises or within noise-sensitive premises.

Note 2

The transmission of noise through a structure or party construction usually means the spectrum inside the receptor premises is normally biased towards the low frequency content compared to transmission via airborne pathways. Furthermore, structurally transmitted noise is likely to be heard in a greater proportion of connected sensitive premises; compared to where the noise is primarily transmitted by airborne pathways where windows can be closed to mitigate the impact and where often only a relatively small proportion of the premises is impacted as only rooms on a façade exposed to the airborne transmission of noise are affected. Consequently, residents affected by airborne transmission of noise can often reduce the impact by moving to another part of their home that is less affected. This means that it can be appropriate to use the criteria listed above for between 23:00 to 07:00 hrs outside of these times when noise is transmitted through a structure or party construction.

Measurement

Note

External Assessment

For the appropriate period (pre and post 23:00 hrs), the WEN ambient or background noise level is determined as per Advisory Note A below and rounded to the nearest decibel. This is then compared with the total noise level, including entertainment noise. If the total noise level exceeds the WEN value by the specified criterion, then a significant effect is deemed to occur.

Internal Assessment

Where internal noise assessment is possible either through measurement or prediction a relative or absolute EN maybe assigned. The measurement of the internal EN and WEN should follow Advisories A and as appropriate, with the addition of Advisory C.

Representative noise levels

Advisory Note A: For assessment purposes it is unduly onerous to use the very highest EN level that may be measured and instead a representative typical value should be used; as an example, the EN could be the whole integer value of the measurement closest to the 75th percentile of all the 5-minute measurements made in the last hour of the operation of the premises at its highest entertainment noise levels, i.e. it does not include any “cool-down period” when MNLs might be reduced below normal operational levels.

Advisory note B: For assessment purposes it is unduly onerous to use the very lowest WEN level that may be measured and instead a representative typical value should be used; as an example, WEN could be the whole integer modal average, i.e. the most commonly occurring value of the twelve WEN 5-minute measurements during the last hour of the operation of the premises without entertainment noise occurring. For existing premises where it is impracticable to stop the entertainment noise for the last hour of operation, the measurement period shall be twelve WEN 5-minute periods totalling an hour after entertainment noise at the premises has ceased, excluding any measurements that contain noise from patrons or other sources associated with dispersal from the premises under assessment.)

Advisory note C: Internal measurements should be undertaken at a representative position, e.g. bedhead or chair position and where necessary be the same for both the EN and WEN assessments. The height of the measuring microphone should be between 1.2 to 1.5 m above the floor and 1 m away from any sound reflecting or absorbing surfaces.”

It should be noted that, in an assessment in which Entertainment Noise (EN) is defined as being inclusive of the ambient acoustic environment Without Entertainment Noise (WEN), it is unclear whether the criterion of EN being lower than WEN is achievable in this context.

The specific criteria to be met within these ranges should ultimately be identified by a Suitably Qualified Acoustician (SQA), Environmental Health Officer (EHO) or another regulatory decision-maker, but is informed by the completion of the Venue Assessment Matrix shown in Page 31 of the document and replicated below:

Criteria	Risk Rating
Number of Events per Year	
< 1 event per week	0
< 30 events per year	3
Weekly, or more frequently	6
Time of Event	
Up to 20:00 hrs	0
Up to 23:00 hrs	3
After 23:00 hrs	6
Noise Sensitive Receptors	
None in close proximity	0
One, or more, in close proximity (up to 50 metres)	3
Structurally adjoining	6
Venue Sound Insulation performance	
Purpose built - robust sound insulation performance	0
Average – not purpose built but structurally sound	3
Poor – weak sound insulation performance	6
Confidence in Management	
High – well-prepared NMP, no or very few noise complaints	0
Moderate - informal controls in place, few complaints	3
Low - no controls, poor compliance history, history of complaints	6
TOTAL	
<i>[Intentionally Blank]</i>	
RISK RATING	
LOW	<10
MEDIUM	10-20
HIGH	20+

Table 2.3
Venue Assessment Matrix – Risk Rating Score Card

The document states:

“The Risk Rating tool can be used to determine appropriate assessment criteria from the ranges presented in Table 2 previously. For example, a Risk Rating of less than 10 indicates that a control criterion at the less stringent end of the ranges in Table 2 would be appropriate, a Risk Rating of more than 10 but less than 20 indicates that a control criterion towards the middle of the ranges in Table 2 would be appropriate, and a Risk Rating of more than 20 indicates that a control criterion at the more stringent end of the ranges in Table 2 would be appropriate.”

3.0 ANTICIPATED CONDITIONS

The anticipated conditions relating to noise are as follows:

- A noise management plan (this document) will be prepared and will be available on site during the event.
- Prior to the event the organisers will carry out a letter drop to residents in relevant locations with the pre-event information and sound check times.
- A member of the WTF Noise Team will be on site throughout the event to monitor sound levels from remote equipment sited in close proximity to nearest noise-sensitive properties.
- Should higher than appropriate noise levels be identified, music noise levels will be reduced.
- All complaints of noise received shall be logged, responded to and investigated. Details of the complaint, investigative action taken and what corrective action, if any, will be taken shall be documented and provided to Environmental Health Services after the event.
- The premises license holder shall ensure that all parties, including promoters, artist management, sound system supplier and all individual sound engineers are informed of the presence of WTF Noise Team on site and that any instructions from the any member of WTF Noise Team staff regarding noise levels shall be implemented.
- The event is restricted to the operating times detailed previously and any noise creating events outside these times will not be the responsibility of WTF Noise Team.
- The premises License Holder will show due consideration to noise levels within and immediately around the event.

4.0 EVENT NOISE MONITORING

4.1 Survey Methodology

WTF Noise Team will utilise up to three (3no.) sound levels meters (SLMs) during the monitoring depending on necessity. Due to ongoing workloads and alternate project requirements, the SLMs to be utilised during the event may be subject to change. However, it is anticipated at this point that the following equipment will be used:

- 2no. 01dB Cube Class 1 Sound Level Meters; and
- 1no. Norsonic 140 Class 1 Sound Level Meters.

The 01dB Sound Level Meters (SLMs) have capability to be remotely accessed, allowing for ease of monitoring live music noise levels. These SLMs will be located in fixed positions. The Norsonic SLM will be available for use should any noise complaints be received during the event.

In the unlikely event that the SLMs above are unavailable they will be replaced with alternative Class 1 accurate SLMs that have been calibrated within 24 months prior to the end of the event.

The sound level meters will be calibrated before and after the measurements to ensure no significant calibration drifts have occurred (>0.2dB). The noise monitoring equipment will have been calibrated to a traceable standard within the twenty-four months preceding the survey. Calibration certificates are available on request.

The proposed measurement locations are shown in Appendix C.

During the noise monitoring period, records of the prevailing weather conditions will also be gathered throughout the survey, monitoring significant precipitation and high wind speeds (>5m/s).

4.2 Noise Sensitive Receptors (NSRs)

The following NSRs have been identified based on their proximity to the Festival. The NSR direction from the Festival has been determined from the location of the Main Stage.

Table 4.1
Noise Sensitive Receptor (NSR) Locations

Reference	Address	Cardinal/Ordinal Direction	Description
NSR1	Residential dwellings adjacent to Eastern Way, Melksham SN12 6WW	Northwest	2-storey residential dwellings

NSR locations are shown in Appendix B.

5.0 SITE NOISE LIMITS

5.1 Recommended Noise Limits

With reference to the Noise Council document ‘Code of Practice on Environmental Noise control at Concerts’, the following noise limit protocol has been determined and deemed appropriate.

As the festival has live music for no more than 3 days per year, the criteria in Table 1 of the above document for the daytime periods (between 0900h-2300h) is applicable:

“The Music Noise Level (MNL) should not exceed 65dB(A) over a 15-minute period”.

This is summarised in Table 5.1 below:

Table 5.1
Summary of Noise
Limits

Date	Event Time Period	Noise Limit
Friday 26/06/26	1600h-2300h	65dB(A) $L_{Aeq,15minute}$ At NSR
Saturday 27/06/26	1300h-2300h	

It is of the understanding to WTF Noise Team that all amplified music will finish at no later than 2300h, and as such will not fall into the night-time criteria. However, where amplified music exceeds the curfew, a further criterion for the night-time period is applicable.

A criterion of NR20 within any residential property has been chosen as to reflect a noise level which could be considered inaudible within a dwelling. In order to allow for the ease of assessment during the event, it is determined noise level which complies with NR20 would have an overall L_{Aeq} noise level of approximately 25dB. Using the industry standard reduction of 15dB for an open window, a noise level of 40dB $L_{Aeq,15minute}$ limit is proposed at any residential dwelling between 2300h-0900h. It is highlighted that an internal noise level of 25dB is 5dB below the internal noise level criteria found in BS 8233:2014 ‘Guidance on sound insulation and noise reduction for buildings.’

Although the above night-time criteria requirements are suitable for ensuring noise levels are kept to a minimum at the NSRs, it is recommended that amplified music does not exceed its curfew, as to avoid the potential for unwanted and unnecessary noise complaints.

For other identified noise sources associated with the Festival, these will be monitored appropriately during the night-time.

6.0 MEASUREMENT PLAN

6.1 Periodic Checks

Once noise limits have been set and agreed with, the measurement plan is to monitor the noise levels at fixed locations which have remote access capability to allow instant access to live noise levels. If noise levels at the fixed measurement locations exceed the noise limits, then the noise level on the outside stage must be addressed (reduced) to reduce the subsequent noise levels at the monitoring locations.

This process should be done after measuring the current noise level at the mixing desks and the noise level at the measurement location. The sound technician should then be instructed to lower the noise level by the relevant amount with a note taken of the new noise level at the mixing desk. After 15-minutes, the noise level at the measurement location should again be checked. All levels to be recorded for reference.

Therefore, it is proposed to monitor in up to two fixed locations in close proximity to the residential areas mentioned previously. Noise consultants on site will be able to remotely access the noise monitor should the need arise to assess any problem noise levels or frequencies.

Periodic checks will be completed at the remaining agreed locations to ensure compliance with the noise levels at those locations.

6.2 On Receipt of a Complaint

On receipt of a complaint the following actions will occur:

Note the complainant's name, address and phone number. Attend their property if they will allow. If not, note this down.

Attend the property and using one of the available SLMs on a tripod, measure the 5-minute L_{Aeq} at least 3m from the façade of the property. The 5-minute L_{Aeq} will then be used for comparison purposes against the noise level limits for the site. Utilising a 5-minute L_{Aeq} will provide a worst-case assessment and is more practical than using a 15-minute value for enforcement purposes.

If the limits are exceeded, then the same procedure as for the periodic checks to reduce the noise levels at the mixing desk location will be utilised. If necessary, one staff member can return to the mixing desk and communication via radio can be used. Changes made must be immediate.

The specific sequence of actions, once it has been established that the noise levels are exceeding the noise level limits are as follows:

- Dependent on the nature of the exceedance, either the overall noise levels or the relevant octave band noise levels will be reduced at the mixing desk. The effect of this change will be monitored for 5 minutes to establish if compliance has been achieved.
- If compliance has been achieved, no further action will be required. If compliance has not been achieved, either the overall noise levels or the relevant octave band noise levels will be reduced further at the mixing desk. The effect of this change will be monitored for a further 5 minutes to establish if compliance has been achieved.

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- If compliance has been achieved, no further action will be required. If compliance has still not been achieved, then consideration will be given to bringing the current act off stage at the end of that track in order to allow changes to be made. The decision of Dragonfly on this matter will be final.
- If appropriate changes cannot be made to ensure noise levels stay within limits, then the event will be forced to terminate early.

WTF Noise Team will remain in contact with the following people to ensure the smooth running of the event and any assistance required ensuring the above procedures are followed:

- Site Manager: Mike Nicola
- General Manager: Gary Cooke
- Tech Manager: Nico Menghini
- Health & Safety Advisor: Tony Whiting

Appendix A – Glossary of Terminology

In order to assist the understanding of acoustic terminology and the relative change in noise, the following background information is provided.

The human ear can detect a very wide range of pressure fluctuations, which are perceived as sound. In order to express these fluctuations in a manageable way, a logarithmic scale called the decibel, or dB scale is used. The decibel scale typically ranges from 0dB (the threshold of hearing) to over 120dB. An indication of the range of sound levels commonly found in the environment is given in the following table.

Table A-1
Sound Levels Commonly Found in the Environment

Sound Level	Location
0dB(A)	Threshold of hearing
20 to 30dB(A)	Quiet bedroom at night
30 to 40dB(A)	Living room during the day
40 to 50dB(A)	Typical office
50 to 60dB(A)	Inside a car
60 to 70dB(A)	Typical high street
70 to 90dB(A)	Inside factory
100 to 110dB(A)	Burglar alarm at 1m away
110 to 130dB(A)	Jet aircraft on take off
140dB(A)	Threshold of Pain

Acoustic Terminology

dB (decibel) The scale on which sound pressure level is expressed. It is defined as 20 times the logarithm of the ratio between the root-mean-square pressure of the sound field and a reference pressure (2×10^{-5} Pa).

dB(A) A-weighted decibel. This is a measure of the overall level of sound across the audible spectrum with a frequency weighting (i.e., 'A' weighting) to compensate for the varying sensitivity of the human ear to sound at different frequencies.

L_{Aeq} This is defined as the notional steady sound level which, over a stated period of time, would contain the same amount of acoustical energy as the A-weighted fluctuating sound measured over that period.

L₁₀ & L₉₀ If a non-steady noise is to be described it is necessary to know both its level and the degree of fluctuation. The L_n indices are used for this purpose, and the term refers to the level exceeded for n% of the time. Hence L₁₀ is the level exceeded for 10% of the time and as such can be regarded as the 'average maximum level'. Similarly, L₉₀ is the 'average minimum level' and is often used to describe the background level. It is common practice to use the L₁₀ index to describe traffic noise.

L_{AMax} is the maximum A-weighted sound pressure level recorded over the period stated. L_{AMax} is sometimes used in assessing environmental noise where occasional loud noises occur, which may have little effect on the overall L_{eq} noise level but will still affect the noise environment.

Appendix B – Measurement Locations

Figure B-1
Measurement Location
Plan



Appendix C – Complaint Log Sheet

Table C-1
Complaint Log Sheet
Example

Complaints Log – Wiltshire Throwback Festival (WTF26!)		
Date and Time	NSR Noise Level Minimum 5-minute L_{Aeq} (15 Minute L_{Aeq} if practical)	Main Stage Mixing Desk Noise Level
Changes Required Y/N		
Complainants Name	Complainants Address	Complainants Phone Number
New Noise Levels (Minimum 5/15-minute L_{Aeq})	NSR Noise Level	Static Location Noise Level
Notes on any Changes Required (Please note artist / genre)		