



Subject:	2015 Tennents Vital plans
Date:	19th August, 2015
Reporting Officer:	Trevor Martin, Head of Building Control, ext. 2450
Contact Officer:	Stephen Hewitt, Building Control Manager, ext. 2435

Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To inform the Committee of the measures and procedures being put in place for this year's Tennents Vital event.
1.2	The measures as detailed in Appendix 1 to this report include those which Officers of the Service have negotiated with the organisers and other statutory agencies to ensure the Health, Safety, Welfare and general public safety of those attending the event is catered for.
1.3	Furthermore, the measures should equally reduce the impact the event will have on the area and ensure that residents are not unduly affected by it.

2.0	Recommendations
2.1	Taking into account the information presented, Members are requested to endorse the measures that have been put in place for the event along with the work being done with the bus operators and the issue of excessive alcohol consumption on buses.

3.0	Main report
	Key Issues
3.1	Members will be aware that Tennents Vital is now regarded as an annual event and now very much synonymous with both Belfast and Boucher Road Playing Fields.
3.2	Boucher Road Playing Fields is owned by Belfast City Council and currently holds both a 14-Day Occasional Outdoor Entertainments Licence and a 14-Day Marquee Entertainments Licence. Both licences are the responsibility of the Councils Parks & Leisure Department and are renewed annually.
3.3	Members may also be aware that the Parks and Leisure Committee have already been

	<p>informed of this year's event and, at their meeting of the 11th December 2014, they agreed for the promoter, MCD Promotions to hold up to four concerts at the Boucher Road Playing Fields from early August, 2015 until early September, 2015.</p>
3.4	<p>The Parks and Leisure Committee also granted approval and in the same period during 2016, 2017 and 2018 – with the dates to be agreed with the Council subject to satisfactory terms being established and agreed with the Director of Parks and Leisure.</p>
3.5	<p>This was subject to and on condition that on each occasion the event organisers resolve all operational issues to the Council's satisfaction, that an appropriate legal agreement is completed and that the event organisers meet all statutory requirements including Entertainment Licensing.</p>
3.6	<p>Members should be aware that Tennents Vital operates under the auspice of the Outdoor Entertainments Licence.</p>
3.7	<p>The current days and hours during which outdoor musical entertainment is permitted to be provided are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday to Sunday: 11.30am to 11.00pm.
3.8	<p>In addition, there are special conditions attached to the licence which:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enables a maximum occupancy figure to be set by the Building Control Service depending upon individual concert set up proposals, and 2. Requires a promoter, at least one month in advance of any event, to submit a suitable Noise Assessment and Noise Management Plan. The Noise Assessment must be completed by a suitably qualified and experienced noise control consultant and must demonstrate that noise from the event will not cause unreasonable disturbance to nearby residential properties. The Noise Management Plan must be agreed to the satisfaction of Council officers and any failure to comply with the requirements set out therein shall be considered to be a breach of the licensing conditions, and 3. Allows the licensee to apply for additional hours, later than 11.00pm, which may or may not be granted by Committee dependent upon any noise issues which may have arisen from previous events.
3.9	<p>Last year's Tennents Vital took place on Thursday 21st and Sunday 24th August and featured world class acts, namely David Guetta, The Killers, Bastille and Steve Angello.</p>
3.10	<p>A total of 11 complaints were received over the course of the 2 day event with 8 being received as a result of Thursday's event and 3 for Sunday's. These were generally received from residents within the immediate area around the venue.</p>
3.11	<p>This is less than the 23 that were received in 2013 and significantly less than the 231 complaints received in 2012.</p>
3.12	<p>The complaints related to noise disturbance from the concerts and some anti-social behaviour.</p>
3.13	<p>The event is now in its fourth year at the venue and has also featured similar world class acts, such as Avicii, Kings of Leon and Snow Patrol. The event involves an extensive site build and is normally held on two days, however it was held over three days in 2013.</p>

3.14	<p>Tennents Vital 2015 This year's event will be held over two days on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th August. Calvin Harris will perform on Saturday 29th August as the headline act with supporting acts, Ellie Goulding, John Newman, Disciples and Burn also performing.</p>
3.15	<p>The Script is the headline act for Sunday 30th August and will be supported by Kodaline, Annie Mac, Clean Bandit and Jack Savoretti.</p>
3.16	<p>45,000 tickets have been made available for sale on each night. Gates are scheduled to be opened at 4.30pm with entertainment planned to commence soon after and finish by 11.00pm.</p>
3.17	<p>The promoter has extensive experience of organising outdoor events of this scale which includes previous Tennents Vital Concerts at this venue, Botanic Gardens and Ormeau Park.</p>
3.18	<p>Planning Meetings Several planning meetings have already been held with relevant services, agencies and MCD Promotions regarding the actual event. A further pre-event meeting is due to be held beyond the time of writing this report on Thursday 13th August. However, we will provide you with an update of progress at your meeting.</p>
3.19	<p>The meetings have been attended by Officers of the Council, PSNI, NIFRS, MCD Promotions, Officers from Transport NI (DRD), Roads Service, Translink and Northern Ireland Ambulance Service.</p>
3.20	<p>Officers of the Service have always worked closely involved with the planning, running and subsequent reviews of the outdoor events held at the venue. Throughout our time in dealing with the event, we have experienced no difficulties in working with the event organiser.</p>
3.21	<p>Noise issues The Environmental Protection Unit (EPU) has been consulted in relation to the application and the proposals for this year's Tennents Vital event.</p>
3.22	<p>The Unit is supportive of all events aimed at improving the attractiveness and diversity of the City and are committed to working with licensees to ensure these events are successful and achieve a balance between the rights of residents, the event, the promotion of the city and the wider benefits to the local economy.</p>
3.23	<p>Following the significant number of complaints received in 2012, Council Officers and the promoter work extensively together in order to manage the noise generated from the event and minimise the potential for noise disturbance. The promoter is continuing to work closely with Officers this year and a protocol will be in operation on each night of the event to effectively record and communicate complaints received.</p>
3.24	<p>Members should also recognise that noise generated by large scale outdoor concerts is likely to lead to some level of disturbance for local residents. Even if guideline levels are met there is no guarantee that complaints will not be received. Conversely, if a recommended level is exceeded this may not necessarily lead to complaints as people may be prepared to tolerate the event because it will only last for a limited period of time.</p>

3.25	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> Officers will be required to be present for each concert and attend any planned meetings but this is catered for within existing budgets.</p>
3.26	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u> There are no equality or good relations issues associated with this report.</p>

4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1. Measures taken by the Council in relation to Tenants Vital Concert at Boucher Road Playing Fields.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 2 – Poster and creative of the No Alcohol On Buses Campaign