

**Environmental Health objection in respect of
Temporary Event Notice application for proposed event at
273-275 London Road, Staines-upon-Thames**

Detail of application

A Temporary Event Notice was submitted on Thursday 20th August 2020 for a proposed event to take place between 12:00 and 23:00 on Saturday 5 September 2020 at the Signature Van Hire site, 273-275 London Road, Staines-upon-Thames. The nature of the event is a family event and BBQ for up to 250 attendees with the licensable activities being the sale by retail of alcohol and regulated entertainment.

The site is located on the north side of the A30, between Staines and Ashford. The site is being used as a van hire business. There has been no history of music or other events being held at the site, until just recently.

The organiser of this proposed event is Black Steel Limited.

It is noted that three previous applications were made by the same applicant for similar proposed events to take place in August 2020. Environmental Health and Surrey Police had concerns about each of these proposed events in relation to the licensing objectives.

Reason for objection

In considering the licensing objectives, Environmental Health have concerns that this proposed event would undermine the objective of public nuisance and for this reason must raise an objection to this application.

The application states that the applicant will provide a Noise Impact Assessment, along with other supporting documentation, 5 working days before the event starts. Since this supporting document has not been provided with the application, this cannot be considered as part of the consultation for this Temporary Event Notice.

The site has held three unlicensed music events, over three consecutive weeks (18th July, 25th July and 1st August). The level of amplified music was sufficient to amount to statutory noise nuisance to nearby residents, and this resulted in Environmental Health serving noise abatement notices under Section 80 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 on the landowner and occupier, a previous event organiser and subsequently on Signature Van Hire. Statutory noise nuisance has been witnessed by the out of hours' noise service, and further enforcement action is being considered as a result. The abatement notices required that the recipient 'cease the use on the land of any amplification equipment, such as loud speakers, amplifiers and microphones, that can be used for music and voice amplification at a volume that is likely to cause a nuisance to residents of nearby residential premises'.

The number of potential attendees of 250 and the proposal of regulated entertainment gives rise to concern that further statutory nuisance will take place if the proposed event goes ahead. No information has been provided as to what the regulated entertainment will comprise, such as recorded or live music. There is also no information provided on the scale of the site or detailing where the sound equipment will be located on the site, and furthermore, what steps will be taken in respect of noise mitigation.

The application makes no reference as to how the event will be managed, and any measures that will be taken to prevent public nuisance, including the management of people attending the event, and leaving the site. There is no indication whether residents would be provided with contact details for the person managing the event so that they can report any issues or concerns.

The site is located close to numerous residential properties and Environmental Health have received a large number of complaints about previous recent events at this site with regards to noise. There has also been a considerable amount of anti-social behaviour when people have left previous events held on the site, litter left, shouting, screaming and drunken behaviour.

Environmental Health are therefore concerned about the impact this event will have on local residents and consider that public nuisance would be likely from such an event.

Additional concerns

There has been no Covid-19 risk assessment submitted, and the proposed number of persons attending raises concern about the capacity for social distancing and risk of spread of Covid-19.

Previous recent events held at this site have resulted in a significant number of cars from persons attending the event being parked on the A30 dual carriageway outside the venue causing traffic congestion and also on the access road opposite serving the residential properties, which resulted in residents' cars being blocked in. The proposed number of attendees for this event is likely to result in similar issues.