

Approved By: <i>CHARLES GARRETT</i> Chief Officer	Classification of Paper: Not Protectively Marked
Report to PCC	Report reference number PCC/0057/14
Date of Report 26/06/2014	Area of County/Stakeholders affected- Grays, Thurrock
Title of report: Request for Abatement re T-Fest event on Grays Beach on 26/27 July 2014	
Report by: A/Insp 432 Thompson	
Enquiries to: A/Insp 432 Thompson & CI Norris 733	

1. Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to request a decision on how much abatement we can apply to the private hire cost of police for a local community event being run by Thurrock Borough Council on Grays Beach over the 26th and 27th of July. The event has been running for 6 previous years and is known locally as the T-Fest (Operation Lotus). Over the previous years this has not fallen under the private hire requirements and therefore as this is predominantly a community event which is free of charge, we feel that a substantial abatement will assist relations with the local authority and allow them to pay for the private hire of police resources to allow the event to go ahead safely.

2. Recommendations

Agree to an abatement of 36% based on the fact that the event has been organised by the Local Council and a licence has been acquired due to the exhibition of live music and sale of alcohol. Some Stewards are being used which does mitigate the need for additional resources. There is no payment required for attendees, the

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performers are paid and there is a small amount of trader concessions. However the event is not for profit, but also to note there are no proceeds going towards any charity. There will be a local community impact in respect of traffic congestion and potential increase in ASB/disorder; however this will be offset by the event also bringing a considerable amount of community benefit.

3. Benefits of Proposal

By allowing an abatement/reduction in private hire costs will then mean the quote supplied will fall within the council budget. Thus allowing them to hire police resources to enable the event is police properly. Without this abatement it is unlikely that the council will be able to afford the full hire cost and therefore this will result in either:

- 1. They will go ahead without the support of police, which could potentially result in an increase in disorder/ASB that we will then lead to officers on normal duties being abstracted to deal with this event.*
- 2. They will not have sufficient numbers in stewards/SIA trained staff and have to cancel the event at short notice.*

By allowing abatement and the subsequent hire of resources we will provide extra high visibility policing at the event, and surrounding town centre, providing a positive approach and preventing an increase in ASB/disorder.

By allowing abatement and the subsequent hire of resources we will be able to reduce the impact of the event on the local community in respect of ensuring that the traffic management is upheld and minimal disruption caused to local residents.

4. Background and proposal

T Fest is an event organised by Thurrock Borough Council and takes place at Grays Beach and Kilverts Field. This is a live and recorded music event with a funfair and bar areas. Entry to the event is free and directed towards the local community.

This will take place on Saturday 26nd July 2014 1000 to 1900hrs and Sunday 27th July 2014, 1000 to 1900hrs

The licensing activities are covered by the license within these timescales. The Event Organiser Samson DeAlyn (Thurrock Borough Council) is estimating the event will attract a footfall of 3500 - 4000 people per day with a peak of 2000.

The event is designed to attract crowd demographics of a full family mix catering for all ages. The event arena will cater for 6500 persons (Information provided by organiser and not verified). There is security and stewarding in place both at the site and involved with the traffic management plan.

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Historically there has been an issue with traffic management and the night time economy upon conclusion of the event. Specifically the problems experienced were with drunkenness, minor scuffles and some resistance to the closedown on the Saturday night. At present there is no intelligence relating to the event regarding direct or perceived threats.

Options considered : This event has ran for the past 6 years with no major issues. However this year the event falls within the request for private hire. The event has been passed to OPC for assessment of which a Threat assessment was carried out and appropriate resource numbers identified to be policed at a local level. Options are:

1. Private hire on the resource numbers suggested by OPC – This equates to 4 x Sgts, 14 x PC's and 8 x PCSO's over the two days, covering earlies and late duties. These officers would assist in policing the event within the designated footprint.
2. No Private Hire – would mean we would not supply any officers to police the event within the footprint of the event itself, however we would obviously still be aware of the event on a local level and have a contingency plan in respect of local PCSO's and NPT policing outside the event in the town centre.
3. We also put to the organisers that if they spent the money they were to spend on the private hire of police onto the hire of SIA staff they would get far more resources for their money enabling them to police the event themselves. This has been considered and although too late to implement this year, is likely to be the case next year.

Consultations : Planning for this event by all parties has been conducted with the appropriate meetings of all relevant authorities involved via SAG.

At present we have already discussed resource levels and a proposed charging cost

TOTAL CHARGE		8992.00
Abatement (36%)		(2,828.16)
Revised Charge		6163.84
VAT @ 20%		1232.77
of GRAND TOTAL FOR PAYMENT	£	7,396.61

This was accepted and the organiser has agreed to pay this amount with this abatement (before we understood this process). As it stands the organiser has provided an address and contacts for an invoice, and is continuing to finalise the event plans.

A decision on how much abatement we can offer or confirmation on the 36% is required ASAP as the event itself is only 4 weeks away.

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5. Police and Crime Plan

na

6. Police Operational Implications

Refer to 3. and 4.

7. Financial Implications

Refer to 3. and 4.

8. Legal Implications

na

9. Staffing and other resource implications

Refer to 3. And 4.

10. Equality and Diversity implications


na

11. Background papers

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Report Approval

The report will be signed off by the Executive Director, Treasurer and the PCC Solicitor where legal implications arise.

Executive Director/M.O
 Treasurer 
 PCC Legal Advisor (As necessary)

Decision

I agree the recommendations to this report

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PCC/Deputy PCC

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because

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PCC/Deputy PCC

Publication

Reasons for non-publication (*state 'None' if applicable*)

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Signed/Print name

Report for publication

YES

NO

If the report is not for publication, the Executive Director will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.

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