

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Safety at Sports Grounds Sub-Committee

Date: 7th March 2018

Report for: Information

Report of: The Chief Executive

Report Title

The One Love Manchester Concert held at the Lancashire County Cricket Ground on Sunday 4th June 2017

Summary

Application for a Special Safety Certificate to hold an open air concert at the Lancashire County Cricket Ground

Recommendation

That the Report be Noted

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Tony Bibi (Team Leader) Regulatory Services

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Background Papers

Financial Implications:	N/A
Legal Implications:	N/A
Human Resources Implications:	N/A
Asset Management Implications:	N/A
E-Government Implications:	N/A
Risk Management Implications:	N/A

APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL SAFETY CERTIFICATE

LANCASHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

ONE LOVE MANCHESTER CONCERT

4th June 2017

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 After the terrorist attack at the Manchester Arena on Monday 22nd May 2017, Ariana Grande the star of that show arranged a benefit Concert at Emirates Old Trafford to honour and raise vital funds for the victims tragically affected by the attack. The Concert was titled One Love Manchester and was held on Sunday 4th June 2017 and was broadcasted live by the BBC on television and radio to a national and international audience. The Concert was officially announced five days before the planned event on Tuesday 31st May with tickets going on sale on Thursday 1st June.
- 1.2 The Concert event clashed with the scheduled 16.00 hours kick off for the Michael Carrick Testimonial Match at Manchester United's stadium with an expected attendance of 70,000; as well as a rugby match at the AJ Bell Stadium in Salford where the start and finishing times for all the events would overlap resulting in major serious traffic congestion and safety concerns.
- 1.3 Extensive negotiations were carried out between all the relevant parties including the Testimonial Committee and the Chief Constable with an agreement to move the football kick off time at Manchester United to 14.30 hours.

2. CONCERT DETAILS

- 2.1 The Concert was staged as a charity event with Ariana Grande and guests on stage including renowned international artistes and bands: Justin Bieber, Coldplay, Katy Perry, Miley Cyrus, Pharrell Williams, Usher, Take That, Niall Horan, Robbie Williams, Little Mix and others. The Concert was planned as a flowing show with no breaks between acts with doors opening at 16.00, show commencing at 19.00 and a finish at 22.15 well within the curfew licence of 22.30.
- 2.2 In a dynamic process, extensive detailed planning was agreed between the key agencies, Clubs and Promoters with specialist group meetings being held daily throughout the days leading up to the event with briefing reports being presented to two full Multi-Agency Meetings being held on 31st May and 1st June.
- 2.3 The National Security Threat Level was reduced from Critical to Severe by the Government on the 27th May 2017 however the robust security and counter terrorism measures implemented for the Courteeners' Concert the previous week were further enhanced with an increase in fire armed officers with a noticeable visible police presence outside the venue, in addition to the increased club security provision at the search lanes. A number of 'profilers' were also in position at gate entries together with dogs trained in the detection of possible devices. Overnight security and perimeter patrols and checks were intensified in the early morning hours of the event day due to the London Bridge terrorist attack on the

evening before the Concert when 8 people were killed and 48 injured.

- 2.4 Traffic Management from the outset was identified as being intrinsic for the success of the event. TfGM and the Club's representatives in discussions with GMP and partner agencies produced an updated and revised travel plan. In particular, a robust crowd management strategy was required to cover issues of ingress at LCCC and egress at MUFC with the potential conflict of vehicles and pedestrians leaving and arriving to venues in close proximity. Stewarding was key to diverting all foot traffic to identified tram stations using loudhailers supported by signage, vms, social media and live radio updates to communicate the comprehensive travel plan e.g. Old Trafford tram station was closed to football supporters who were diverted to Trafford Bar tram station. Tram services were extended from a normal Sunday service to meet demand and a park and ride / tram (Event City / Etihad), shuttle buses and a pick up location at the car parks of MUFC were also included within the plan.
- 2.5 All the safety management procedures and protocols were reviewed and updated following the Courteeners Concert on 27th May 2017. The audience profile was of a reduced risk with a 60/40 female / male split with an emphasis on the younger age range in the mid to late teens. Enhanced welfare and vulnerability plans were also updated in view of the age of the audience and in consideration of those that may have attended on the night of the tragic bombing at the Arena. Trained staff were present on site in welfare facilities adjacent to the stadiums medical rooms and additional support was provided by the Red Cross operating in Trafford Town Hall.
- 2.6 The Special Safety Certificate was duly issued on the day prior to gates opening.
- 2.7 The Traffic Management Plan and the safety and security measures implemented worked both efficiently and effectively in a challenging task, to ensure the Concert was held safely and securely without any adverse incident. The success of the event can be supported by the fact that the Council did not receive any formal complaints of noise nuisance and that there was positive support throughout the media that the event was held safely within a minimal time window to prepare.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Report to be noted.