
**Meeting of the Learning and Culture Scrutiny
Committee**

11th March 2010

Report of the Assistant Director (Lifelong Learning and Culture)

Parks and Open Spaces Events Protocol

Summary

1. This report is to inform the Scrutiny Committee of the review of the current Events Protocol for the Parks and Open Spaces in York and to seek their views on the amendments. (Annex 1).

Background

2. The current Events Protocol was agreed in 2007 in support of the aim of making the city, and its parks and open spaces, more welcoming for events organisers whether from the local community or commercial operators. It set out the responsibility of the events organiser and, following consultation with local communities, the agreed type of activities that could take place on specific sites.
3. We have informally reviewed the protocol with “Friends” organisations over the intervening period and have logged feedback received from members of the public following events. Changes to the licensing laws, advice from the Safety Advisory Group and the Environmental Protection Unit have also been incorporated in this draft.
4. The feedback received has informed the changes to the draft Events Protocol (Annex 1). This now sets out how we propose to operate the letting and hiring of the Parks and Open Spaces within the leisure land portfolio.
5. There is no published list of charges for hiring the spaces as the Events Officer is expected to maximise the income from commercial activities and use the access to the space to support community events. When charges are made these take into account the scale and type of the event, the potential impact on the land and how closely the proposed activity supports the corporate objectives.

Corporate Strategy

6. The Events Protocol contributes to a number of corporate objectives including developing opportunities for residents and visitors to experience York as a vibrant and eventful city, improving opportunities for a healthy, active lifestyle, and strengthening York's economy through investment in the tourism infrastructure.

Implications

7. The report has no additional implications relating to:
- Finance
 - Human Resources
 - Legal
 - Crime and Disorder
 - Information Technology
8. Annex 1 is set out in two parts and requires events organisers to ensure an equality of access to their event and full compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act requirements.

Risk Management

9. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy there are no risks associated with the recommendations of this report.

Recommendations

10. The Scrutiny Committee is asked to note and comment upon the draft Events Protocol.

Reason: To ensure that the views of members have been considered in the production of the new Events Protocol.

Contact Details

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Report Approved



Date

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

None

Annexes

Annex 1: Draft Events Protocol