

# Finsbury Park Events Stakeholder Group Meeting

6.00pm – 8.00pm, Monday 17 October 2022

Online via Teams

## Minutes

### 1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

Attendees

**Chair** – Cllr Davies (LBH)

**LB Haringey (LBH)** - Sarah Jones (SJ), Simon Farrow (SF), Dan Wales, Andrea Keeble, Tony Healey

**LB Islington** – Cllr Woolf (left at 6.50)

**Highbury Community Association** - Sarah Potter

**Hermitage and New River Residents Association** - Tristan Appleby

**Haringay Ward, Haringey** – Cllr Brabazon, Cllr Abela (left at 6.35)

**Pedal Power** – Jo Roach, Mark Pierce

**Brownswood Ward, Hackney** – Cllr Potter

**Edible Landscapes** – Bethany Anderson

**Friends of Finsbury Park** – Tom Graham

**Museum of Homelessness** – Jess and Matt Turtle

**Haringey Police** – Sgt Andy Underwood

**Furtherfield** – Ruth Catlow

#### Apologies

**LB Islington** – Cllr Khondoker, Cllr Craig, Cllr Heather

### 2. Finsbury Park Project Update - SF

*See slides attached.*

Lighting

**Cllr Potter** – Is there a map of where lighting will go?

**LBH** – Not included in presentation but will run from Finsbury Gate up to Endymion Road Gate.

**FoFP** – Will the lights be solar powered? What hours will they operate? Current temp lights work sporadically.

**LBH** – The challenge with solar powered lighting is that they can't be linked to central management system and hence, can't be controlled in the same way. Doesn't mean they won't be solar powered going forward. Re operating hours, this is something we need to have a wider discussion with community, no firm decision has been made yet. Re temp lighting, the company who own the lights will be checking them tomorrow.

**ELL** – Any plans to light the other side of the park?

**LBH** – Not at this time, the route being lit is the primary walking route.

Skatepark

**ELL** – Thought £100k match funding was coming from Capital?

**LBH** – Capital funding for the park is largely funding through events income. There is no further funding on top of the £100k already identified.

Richard Hope Play Space

**FOFF** – Playground is brilliant but needs more bins. Yellow slide is quite precarious for younger children and quality of floor isn't brilliant as it's already degrading in a few places.

**LBH** – 3 new bins have been requested and defects have been reported.

### **3. Operation Taipan Update – SF**

*See slides attached.*

**FoFP** – What would be the threshold for removing the hoarding? Still lots of concern for safety in the park.

**LBH** – Haven't had that conversation with police about removing hoarding. There is clearly more attention on dealing with crime in the park, than there ever has been before. Operation Nightingale is also going on in the park and bringing additional resources. Some of it's being tackled, but there's still more to do.

**Cllr Potter** – Needs sustained work.

**ELL** – How far has work happened on the other side of the park? Will shrubs be cut back around ELL

**LBH** – Park operations will be completely clearing that side area of vegetation and a fence is on order to block off access into there – on recommendation of the police.

**Cllr Woolf** – Is anything to be done to the entrance just within Stroud Green Gate?

**LBH** – Short term is to try and keep as closely mown as possible to stop people hiding or hiding things. Longer terms will be part of the boundary review which will consider what can be done to the whole of the bank.

### **4. Boundary Review – SF**

*See slides attached.*

**Cllr Potter** – Would this impact major events?

**LBH** – May create the need for more temporary fencing, which is something that we'll need to consider.

**Chair** – This is an exploratory project, looking for evidence, not opinion. No decisions have yet been made and it will be a real co-produced piece of work.

Cllr Wolf – Key is all evidential based and would have police and experts feed in. FP being transport hub and would like to know everything is done based on evidence.

ELL – Two of things police have advised, haven't been done – locking park and higher impermeable fences. Can we share New York example, and Sustrans experience?

Chair – Police are consultees and perfectly acceptable to advise on things. We don't need to follow that advice and they don't run parks. On the issue of the EqIA – there isn't a full one, but we did take advice from the Equalities Team.

**FoFP** – Has received FoI from someone in Islington which mentions something called Parks Without Boarders. Can you assure us that this is a real co-production project.

**Chair** – Park Without Boarders is an interesting project that provides some interesting examples on park safety.

**LBH** – Parks Without Boarders is what New York City called their programme. This is an exploration of how we can take the boarder of the park forward.

**MoH** – Really interested to be involved in boundary review. Can see pros and cons

**Cllr Brabazon** – Can we have contact with City of New York to see how they've progressed it?

**FoFP** – What is the point of this?

**LBH** – Premise is about improving the actual safety and feeling of safety in the park. Only want to do things that are going to take us closely to that goal. And for people to enjoy their visit to the park... busier park is a safer park.

## 5. Overview of Finsbury Park Events – SJ

*See slides attached.*

**FoFP** – Finances worthy of a separate chat. Looking at lessons learnt. Biodiversity – has an assessment impact been done? Air quality, 4x4s driving around perimeter – speeding, dangerous, loose language from performers (mentioned WAP lyrics). Damage done to trees.

**LBH** – Biodiversity audit will be done next year, which will give us a baseline to assess going forward. Air quality monitoring will be discussed with colleagues in the air quality team. We will add issues onto list to discuss for next year.

**Cllr Potter** – Brownswood residents reported that communications were much improved. Some of the sound aspects were slightly better. Still have an impact and still has to follow the line that events are too big and have too much impact on local residents.

**ELL** – Welcomes environmental monitoring. Can it also look at soil degradation and security vehicles travelling at speed around perimeter fencing. Can the council instruct them to use electric vehicles. Had at least three reports of sexual assault over the wireless weekend, made to the Friends, what's the update on that?

**Police** – Can't recall any specific reports of sexual assault. On the whole the Finsbury Park events, and Wireless are comparable to other events that take place in London and aren't any worse than other events for reported crime.

**LBH** – we have a breakdown of crime figures which we'll share in the briefing pack to be sent out shortly.

**Pedal Power** – EIF makes a massive difference to the running of the project. Electric wheelchair user had difficulty getting through the site when the build was going on and security were incredibly rude. Re the shelter where drug dealers have been hanging out – it's near to where they operate – is there a risk to Pedal Power users?

**LBH** – All comments will be fed back to Festival Republic when planning for next year's events.

## 6. AOB

n/a

**6. Date of next meeting**

tbc

# Project Update – Lighting



## ALBANY LED




A versatile best-seller converted to LED technology

A classic of the Victorian era, the ALBANY LED is notable for its versatility.

Available in two sizes, with a range of LED photometric engines and a timeless design, it is suitable for large urban centres as well as villages or towns.

- The temporary lighting remains in place
- The design of the permanent lighting has to be informed by protected species survey's. These started in May and were completed in September.
- The information is now with our lighting team to finalise the design.
- Led in time for lanterns and columns is 8-12 weeks.
- Therefore, anticipating start of install in Feb 2023 and completion by March 2023.
- Works funded by events income.

# Project Update – Skate Park

- Friends have raised circa £50k and the Council has committed £100k of events income to complete the project.
  - Site level survey and ecology survey have been completed. Desk based contamination survey completed.
  - My Place and Betongpark will begin public engagement by 31<sup>st</sup> Oct and will conclude 9<sup>th</sup> December.
  - Initial design concepts available Feb 2023.
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# Project Update – Richard Hope Play Space

- Three phases are now complete with the exception of:-
  - New entrance feature to be installed
  - Electrical cabling to stage area
  - Wi-Fi to be installed

OF



# Finsbury Park OG Meeting

## Police Update – Taipan/SNT



# Reducing Crime, through Police & Local Authority Enforcement

## Drug Operation in the “Garage”

- 5 Arrested for Drugs Supply
- £1500 worth of Drugs Seized
- £500 cash seized
- Gang related organisation disrupted



## Drug Dealer Operating in Skate Park

- Arrested and Charged for Drugs Supply
- No further issues in Skate Park

## Class A Drugs Supply - Stroud Green Road and Orchard Grove

- 3 x Charged for Drugs Supply and Possession of Knives and Burglary
- 2 x vulnerable individuals moved



# Regeneration, Design Out Crime & Area Improvement

## Stroud Green Road Entrance

- Bushes removed to make Safer Location
- Consultation with Community Centre re ASB
- Disruption of Gang committing Robberies

## Seven Sisters Road Entrance

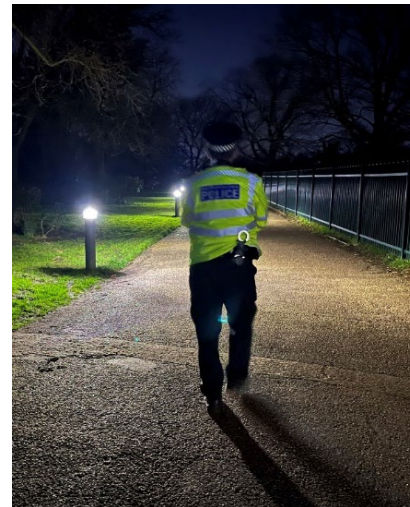
- Removal of Bike Racks
- Consultation with LIDL re ASB
- Fencing area blocked off
- CCTV improvements

## Seated Area near to Running Track

- Seated Area to be fenced off
- Disruption of Gang dealing Drugs
- Fencing area blocked off
- Removal of Old Tree stumps

# Actions taken by SNT - Communication across all three boroughs for residents & visitors

- SNT Officers have prioritised foot patrol and mobile patrol in the ladder in spite of a busy summer schedule with a number of abstractions from normal duties.
- Reassurance function: Officers planned an Anti-VAWG event during the summer, inviting the local VAWG Police lead and also key partners from Islington and Hackney. The event was attended by many several ward councillors.
- We have gone door to door, spoken to and delivered handwritten notes to those who wrote in to express concerns about safety in Finsbury Park. SNT has sought to reduce fear of crime by speaking with residents while on patrol and by dissemination of Ward newsletter.
- Also officers have maintained regular contact with Ward Chair (Mr Ian Sygrave) to develop intel and check public perceptions. Officers have been attending the Ladder Community Safety Partnership – also chaired by our ward chair – sharing regular updates.
- SNT officers are also cultivating a positive relationship with our counterparts in Hackney and Islington and currently planning proactive operations together.



## Community involvement

- **SNT Officers have been working in conjunction with the local councillors, community groups (including community safety groups and traders' groups) and have made strong connections with groups that operate within the park.**
- **SNT have sought input from the local LGBT+ regarding individuals soliciting sex and congregating in bushes. We are delighted to announce that council colleagues will soon be building a fence around one of the worse affected areas and will be improving lighting and cutting back vegetation imminently.**

### Op Nightingale

- Community Surveys
- Street Safe advertising
- Working Group Established
- Local sixth form college participation

### Op Denali

- 31/8/22 – Day of Operation
- SNT, VSU and Proactive Unit
- Assistance from Drugs Dogs
- Several positive stop and searches and weapons seized

# Boundary review - Sustrans

- The scope of the boundary review seeks to explore a reimagining of the boundaries and entrances of the park in a way that supports the overall objective of a safe park.
- The current hard boundary of the park means that there is low visibility into and within the park and limited access and exit points.
- All of those contributing to reduced safety within the park.
- There is evidence to suggest that opening up boundaries, improves access and egress, facilitates greater natural surveillance and encourages people to partake in active travel.
- The project will be delivered in phases: scoping, discover, co-design, test phase and deliver.



# Phasing of the project

- A scoping exercise for the project has been completed and initial conversations have been held with Councillors and some officers.

## Discovery Phase

- The project will now move into a discovery phase which will involve reaching out to groups and members of the public to discuss and identify current issues and opportunities in the park.
- This phase will include engagement meetings, pop-ups, on street activities as well as targeted and bespoke activities for people often excluded from these process and spaces.
- This phase will run until Christmas

# Co-design phase

- The co-design phase will look at finding solutions to the issues and barriers identified in the Discover Phase.
- Working with a broad range of people from the local community to co-design the solutions and help to build a consensus and a sense of community ownership over improving safety in the park.
- Some sketched ideas will be produced from the co-design work.
- This phase will run between Jan & March 2023

# Test phase

- This phase will involve presenting initial ideas back to the community and for the stakeholders, groups and individuals to provide feedback.
- This phase will also be about “testing” ideas at different locations.
- Working with their partners Sustrans will develop some in situ practical tests of the ideas for boundary treatments.
- This phase will last at least for two months, but could be longer dependent on the interventions.





# Deliver Phase

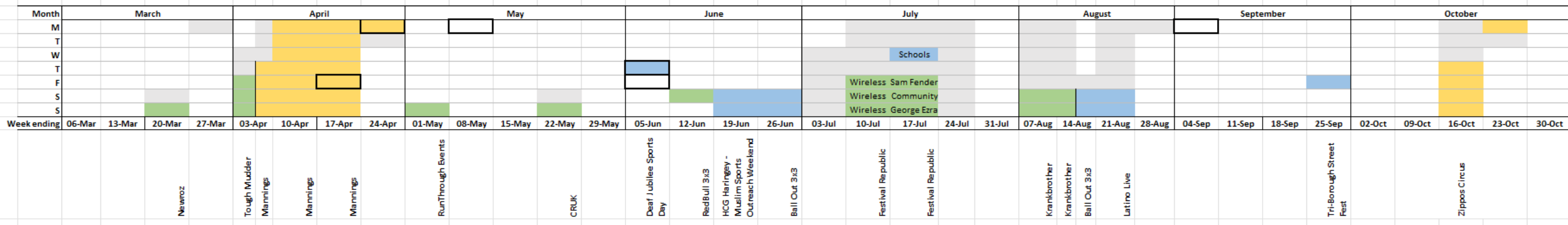
- This will be the end of the Sustrans project and will conclude with a inventory of potential projects and design feature recommendations for the boundaries of Finsbury Park.
- Sketches of ideas will be provided that have been informed by the co-design process involving stakeholders, members of the public and marginalised groups.

# Overview of Finsbury Park Events 2022

*Stakeholder Briefing*  
*Monday 17 October 2022*

# Event season in Finsbury Park

2022



- 52 event days
  - Commercial (green) – 17
  - Funfair / circus (yellow) – 24
  - Community (blue) – 11
- Build/break/rest days – 50 (inc 2 extra due to extreme heat)
- 2 weekends (6 days) of major events (10,000 + attendees)
- Total of 12 days of music events (6 major, 4 large, 2 community)
  - combined total attendance of 312k attendees

# Major events in Finsbury Park

2022

- Classified as a 'Major' event if it has more than 10,000 in attendance
- Outdoor Events Policy states:
  - Finsbury Park can host up to 5 x 3-day weekends each year
  - No major event to take place during the school summer holidays
- Finsbury Park has been home to Wireless since 2015

8 – 10 July: Wireless Festival

15 – 17 July: Sam Fender / Community Festival / George Ezra

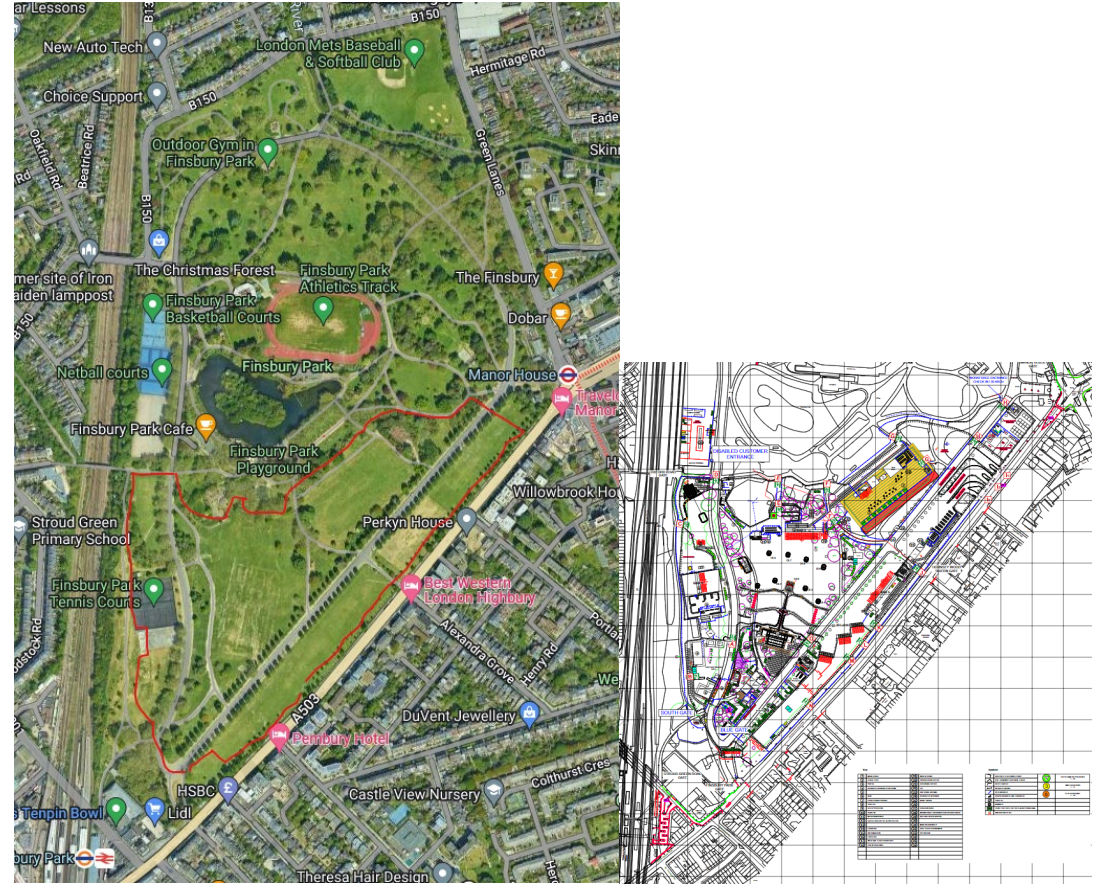
- Attendance of up to 45,000 each day
- Build/break and rest days totalled 20 – should have been 18, but due to excessive heat, break was halted – onsite for 26 days in total
- Schools' music concert took place within event site on Wednesday 13 July, organised by the Council in partnership with Festival Republic
- Events operated under the Live Nation Premises License, but event managed by Festival Republic

July				
03-Jul	10-Jul	17-Jul	24-Jul	31-Jul
		Schools		
	Wireless	Sam Fender		
	Wireless	Community		
	Wireless	George Ezra		
	Festival Republic	Festival Republic		

# Major events in Finsbury Park

2022

- 2022 tennis courts, managed by Access to Sport, were hired to Festival Republic
- Improvements to event area this year included running steel shield behind Richard Hope Play Space
- Build and break managed in a phased approach meaning not all event space was closed off from day 1
- Stakeholder Group held on three occasions in advance of events
- Separate resident meetings held, with Hackney and Islington Councillors in attendance



# Event complaints and enquiries

## Wireless and multi event weekends

- 240 contacts made to Festival Republic via phone / email while on site – 29 June to 24 July (26 days) – including:
  - 160 complaints
  - 80 enquiries
- 52% of overall contacts were made during the 3-day Wireless weekend
- Comparable data from the same Wireless weekend in previous years shows that complaints this year reduced by 45% on 2019 and 40% on 2018

	Total	Enquiries	Complaints
2018	170	20	150
2019	178	15	163
2022	126	37	89

# Event complaints and enquiries

## Wireless and multi event weekends

### Top 5 reasons for complaint

Reason for Complaint	8th	9th	10th	15th	16th	17th	Build/Rest	Total
On-site Noise	12	9	3	7	23	13	4	71
Loitering	7	0	6	2	0	0	0	15
Road Closure	2	0	4	1	2	3	2	14
Illegal Substances	5	1	6	0	0	0	0	12
Urination	3	2	1	0	1	1	0	8
<b>Total Complaints Received</b>								<b>160</b>

### Top 5 reasons for enquiry

Reason for Enquiry	8th	9th	10th	15th	16th	17th	Build/Rest	Total
General Enquiry - Ticket Holder	2	1	1	2	0	3	10	19
Box Office	3	3	1	0	0	0	11	18
Parking	3	1	4	0	1	0	7	16
Residents Tickets	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	8
Road Closures	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	6
<b>Total Enquiries Received</b>								<b>80</b>

Totals shown above include other complaints/enquiries not in top 5

Of total complaints (160):

- 44% related to onsite noise
  - 15% Wireless
  - 27% multi event weekend
  - 2% other
- 9% related to loitering
- 7.5% illegal substances
- Road closure complaints higher on Wireless Sunday due to emergency road closure put in place
- Second weekend saw a decrease in complaints relating to surrounding streets
- Onsite noise was reason given for 69% of complaints made over the second weekend
- 60% of calls made by Haringey residents (compared to 30% Wireless weekend)
- Due mostly to the change in wind direction

# Rectification works

## Festival Republic

- Currently holding Festival Republic's £15,300 deposit
- If rectification works cost more than the paid grounds deposit, they are liable to pay all associated costs as set out in the park hire contract
- Out to tender to get costs and commission contractors to do works
- FR fully or partially liable for list of works
- Some works include enhancements to some areas to ensure repeat damage isn't done – especially road crossovers
- A full breakdown of works to be shared
- Works to tennis courts will be completed tomorrow. Painting will take place in Spring





# Improvements for next year

- Reassess site plan, with focus on main entrance
- Work with new ward members in Haringey to see if event day resident liaison used in Islington and Hackney is needed
- Earlier communications
- Improvement to resident ticket offer
- Look at using Stage 2 for a second day during rest week

# Income

To date

All income generated in Finsbury Park, is spent in Finsbury Park

Total Revenue Expenditure	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Employees	£ 332,400	£ 297,907	£ 294,067	£ 378,438	£ 382,977	£ 480,951	£ 604,536	£ 840,108	£ 871,626
Premises Related Expenditure	£ 43,060	£ 85,130	£ 53,356	£ 75,789	£ 63,756	£ 82,189	£ 98,854	£ 178,023	£ 70,157
Transport Related Expenditure	£ 34,002	£ 33,797	£ 31,940	£ 27,044	£ 21,527	£ 19,949	£ 40,275	£ 42,743	£ 30,163
Supplies & Services	£ 106,717	£ 66,976	£ 55,015	£ 65,218	£ 64,023	£ 111,761	£ 109,065	£ 232,561	£ 125,230
Third Party Payments	£ 59,211	£ 69,742	£ 61,717	£ 115,668	£ 56,804	£ 26,849	£ 114,823	£ 289,332	£ 123,892
Support Services	£ 53,185	£ 80,685	£ 98,274	£ 58,074	£ 79,520	£ 84,678	£ 259,577	£ 211,857	£ 227,368
<b>Total</b>	£ 628,576	£ 634,237	£ 594,369	£ 720,231	£ 668,606	£ 806,377	£ 1,227,131	£ 1,794,624	£ 1,448,437
Investments	£ -	£ -	£ 128,424	£ 458,052	£ 223,066	£ 114,000	£ 243,877	£ 692,816	£ 176,303
<b>Total Expenditure + Investment</b>	£ 628,576	£ 634,237	£ 722,793	£ 1,178,283	£ 891,672	£ 920,377	£ 1,471,008	£ 2,487,440	£ 1,624,740
Income	£ 179,924	£ 244,487	£ 919,162	£ 940,125	£ 726,898	£ 942,570	£ 1,493,564	£ 1,263,111	£ 195,529
<b>Cost to the Council</b>	£ 448,651	£ 389,750	-£ 196,369	£ 238,158	£ 164,774	-£ 22,193	-£ 22,556	£ 1,224,329	£ 1,429,211

# Schools Music Event



- 2 hours of music staged by young people
- 200 young people took part from Haringey and Islington
- 600 people attended
- Held on FR's second stage
- Produced by Haringey's Schools Music Team
- Event Managed by Haringey Events Team
- Sponsored by Festival Republic



# Environmental Impact Fee

## Allocation

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Total
Pedal Power	£10,950	£10,000	£9,600	Affected by Covid	£3,500	Unallocated as yet	£34,050
Parkrun	£600				£1,000		£1,600
Furtherfield	£10,000	£10,000	£9,600				£29,600
Edible Landscapes	£9,950	£10,200	£9,600		£3,500		£33,250
LCSP		£10,000	£9,600				£19,600
FP Boats	£2,500	£5,000					£7,500
FP Sports Partner	£1,000	£5,000	£9,600		£6,000		£21,600
	35,000	£50,200	£48,000		£0		£14,000

## 2022/23 - £34,407

- Live Nation / Festival Republic
- Krankbrother
- Manning's Funfair
- Zippos Circus
- Tough Mudder
- Cancer Research UK
- Ball Out Community

Applications submitted by

14 November 2022

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**Thank you!**