

Peckham Rye Common Stakeholders

Southwark Events  
Environment & Leisure  
Southwark Council  
160 Tooley Street  
London  
SE1 2TZ

28 February 2024

Dear Stakeholder,

**Re: GALA 2024 and one stage shows – stakeholder consultation findings report**

We are writing in reference to event application: **SWKEVE000694** in accordance with our stakeholder consultation and notification process.

A total number of **111** responses were received during the consultation period and have been recorded against this application. All responses are shown in **Appendix 1**.

The following feedback has been captured across 8 key themes:

1. Licensing, income and communication
2. Damage, reinstatement, litter and environmental responsibility
3. Impact on the park, park users and the local area
4. Noise
5. Safety and security
6. Traffic management
7. Community benefits and event programming
8. Support

**1. Licensing, income and communication**

**Licensing:**

Events licence:

The GALA team have withdrawn their proposals for an up to 6 day event and are now proposing to deliver the same 3 day GALA event as they have done in previous years. Dates as follows:

- Build: Tues 14th May - Thurs 23rd May
- Live event days: Fri 24th May - Sun 26th May
- Break: Mon 27th May - Sat 1st June

The decision to host large/major-scale commercial (ticketed) events in Southwark was taken in 2017, deemed necessary in order to raise enough revenue to offset the running costs of the Events service, which supports the delivery of 50+ outdoor community events per year, and in order to continue to fund a range of high quality, free events across Southwark through the Cultural Celebrations Fund grants programme.

There are site-specific conditions that guide the council in terms of the number and frequency of events that can be held each year. The conditions were produced in 2019 following a review of the council's Outdoor Events Policy. The review included a series of public consultation exercises including a questionnaire and stakeholder workshops. A summary of the consultation report, along with Southwark's Outdoor Events Policy can be viewed on this [page](#).

The current conditions for Peckham Rye Park and Common (viewed as one unit because the two sites are joined) can be viewed on the [Peckham Rye Park and Peckham Rye Common site information](#) page. The conditions allow for up to 3 x large or major scale events to take place per annum.

The GALA event is the only large or major scale event that has taken place at this site since the current conditions were introduced in 2019. The GALA event will be the only large/major scale event taking place in the park/on the common in 2024.

The GALA team are subject to a set of general terms and conditions, which apply, as standard, to the hire of council owned and managed properties. They are also subject to a set of specific terms and conditions, which are more relevant to the requirements of the event. In addition to the terms and conditions of hire, the event must also be delivered in compliance with the council's [Outdoor Events Policy](#).

The Outdoor Events Policy and conditions relating to the use of sites for events are due to be reviewed over the next calendar year as the borough updates its leisure strategy to 2030.

Premises licence:

The GALA team have a premises licence to cover this event. The licence is granted in perpetuity and allows for the provision of regulated activities (such as the playing of amplified music and the sale of alcohol) for up to 6 days per annum within the same 10-day period.

When the application was made in 2023, there were 24 representations made in objection to the application and 56 representations made in support of the application.

The licence number is 879391. You can view the premises licence on the council's [Licensing Register](#).

The GALA team are still required to make an application for an events licence on an annual basis (to the council's Events team) to use the site, as the Premises Licence does not give them the right to use the space to hold an

event. The Premises Licence can also be revoked by the council's Licensing team at any time if there is reason to do so.

Income:

The council cannot release details of the commercial site hire fees it charges to large and major scale commercial events due to commercial competition interests, but fees are benchmarked annually against other local authorities with similar borough profiles (where possible) to ensure that they are competitive and achieving best value for the council. The fees and charges for small and medium scale commercial events and community events are available to view on the [events fees and charges web page](#).

The income from all event site hire fees offsets the running costs of the council's Culture and Events service as well as contributing more widely to community services such as Parks and Open Spaces. A key function of the Culture and Events service is to support and enable the delivery of 50+ free-to-attend community events across the borough every year as well as a wide range of cultural initiatives and programmes for local people. The income also makes it possible to fund a range of high quality, free-to-attend events through the [Cultural Celebrations Fund](#) programme. The fund will be supporting 14 events in 2024-25 with combined grants of £94,250.

The council introduced an Environmental Impact Fee (EIF) for all private and commercial event operators at the start of the 2021-22 season. The EIF is a set percentage of the site hire fee and is in addition to the site hire fee. It is also in addition to paying for any ground restoration costs after the event, which the event organiser is liable for. The EIF is ring-fenced specifically for park enhancement projects. In 2022 the EIF was spent on planting improvements to the sensory beds and Japanese garden within the park and bulb planting in the park and on the common. In 2023, the EIF was spent on the enhanced presence for seasonal staff to develop some of the projects and themes favoured by the by Friends of Peckham Rye Park – such as the American Garden & biodiversity enhancements. The EIF must be spent in the same (financial) year that the event takes place.

As part of the wider review and feeding into the development of the borough's Leisure strategy, the Events Team will be exploring further ways of reporting both direct income and other social value generated by outdoor live events in the borough.

### **Communication:**

The Events team holds a formal stakeholder register for Peckham Rye Park/Common, which includes park/common user groups, park/common tenants, the Friends of Peckham Rye Park, local schools, local businesses, local community and faith groups, local residents and a TRA and ward and neighbouring ward councillors. All contacts on the register received details of this consultation by email on Friday 17 November 2023.

In addition:

- A letter informing about the event application and stakeholder consultation was posted out to 4,957 properties around the park and

common. The letter was posted out via Royal Mail on Friday 17 November 2023. A map of the letter drop zone is shown in **Appendix 2**

- [Council](#) and [GALA](#) stakeholder information web pages were published on the 17 November 2023
- Public notices giving information about the application and consultation were placed around the park in prominent positions on Friday 24 November 2023
- A copy of the consultation documents were placed at the Parks office for public viewing when the office was open

Summary of the engagement that has taken place, or is scheduled to take place:

Date	Item
Various	Event and site feasibility discussions between LBS officers and the GALA team
14/11/23	Ward Councillor event briefing
15/11/23	Friends of Peckham Rye Park event briefing
16/11/23	Safety Advisory Group meeting #1
17/11/23	Event licence application consultation
- 08/01/24	
17/11/23	LBS stakeholder info web page: <a href="#">Stakeholder engagement - Southwark Council</a>
17/11/23	GALA community web page: <a href="#">Local Community (thisisgala.co.uk)</a>
17/11/23	Resident info letter drop 1 to over 4,957 properties (giving notice of the application and details about how to take part in the consultation)
29/11/23	Stakeholder engagement meeting #1 (hybrid). Held in person at the The Clockhouse pub and online via Teams. Information about this meeting was included in the consultation document and emailed to the people on GALA's stakeholder list.
18/01/24	Safety Advisory Group meeting #2.
23/02/24	Consultation findings report circulated to stakeholders
05/03/24	Stakeholder engagement meeting #2 (hybrid). To be held in person at the Clockhouse pub and online via Teams, 6-8pm. For more information and to register to attend email: <a href="mailto:community@thisisgala.co.uk">community@thisisgala.co.uk</a>
08/03/24 - 15/03/24	Notice of Decision – council decides whether to issue an events licence based on event proposals and stakeholder feedback to this point
21/03/24	Safety Advisory Group meeting #3
At least 28 days prior to event taking place	Resident info letter drop #2 to 11,000 properties (giving confirmed event information and resident 'hotline' number)

23/05/24	Members of the Friends of Peckham Rye Park and council members site walkabout
24/05/24	Safety Advisory Group site walkabout
TBC	Safety Advisory Group event debrief
TBC	Community event debrief

The council endeavours to reach as many people as possible with the details of an event consultation. We have had feedback that more roads to the south of the event site (Dulwich Hill area) should have been included in the letter drop and we will consider this for any future consultations that are carried out.

We encourage people to sign up to the stakeholder register so they receive information directly from us by email:

[Large and major events in parks consultations mailing list | Southwark Council](#)

The consultation is always started and concluded as soon as practicably possible, but invariably, it can be quite a lengthy process from start to finish.

Ticket sales in advance of issuing of events licence:

It would be very difficult for the promoter to sell enough tickets to make the event viable, if they had to wait until the end of the application process, so promoters will usually decide to start selling tickets whilst they are still going through this process. In this case, ticket sales are 'subject to licence' and if an events licence is not issued, the event does not go ahead and refunds are arranged. This is all done entirely at the event promoter's risk and is common practice in the live events industry.

Feedback received during the event consultation is considered carefully and the decision to issue, or not issue a licence, is balanced against feedback received and the social, cultural and economic benefits the event is expected to deliver. The consultation is also an opportunity for people to make suggestions to improve plans, which can be actioned by the event organisers. Local people with local knowledge are often best placed to do this.

The decision to award an events licence is taken by a Senior Council officer in the Culture division in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, Leisure and Parks.

It is acknowledged that the promoter's company was referred to incorrectly as 'Assembled Live Ltd' in the communication the council sent out to residents. The correct company name as displayed on Companies House is 'Assembled GALA Ltd' Assembled GALA Ltd is the company name given on the event application submitted to the council.

## **2. Damage, reinstatement, litter and environmental responsibility**

### **Damage and reinstatement:**

The GALA team must be compliant with the terms and conditions of a hire agreement, [Outdoor Events Policy](#) and the [Events Environmental Sustainability Guide](#) in relation to site protection.

The GALA team will:

- Use an extended network of trakway around site to ensure no heavy vehicles go onto grassed areas (more trakway will be used this year)
- Produce tree protection method statements and implement tree protection measures ahead of any installation of event infrastructure on site
- Schedule a specialist reinstatement company to commence works as soon as all event items have been removed from site
- Manage their suppliers and contractors robustly when installing and extracting items of event infrastructure

The GALA team and the council fully acknowledge that ground reinstatement efforts have been sub-standard in the past. Work to rectify historical damage took place last year. The work was undertaken by the council Parks' contractor iDverde, and we have received positive feedback from various sources as to the general improvement compared to previous years. The work was paid for by GALA and did not impact on the contract that iDverde have with the council – all work was carried out outside of council-contracted hours.

Before the event moves onto site this year, Events and Parks Officers will meet with the GALA team to assess site conditions. Photographs will be taken of each section of the ground within the event site footprint and on routes to the site, to establish what damage (if any) has happened whilst the event has been on site. All damage attributed to the event will be made good post-event.

Reinstatement of the event site (if required) is a condition of licence and a ground deposit is taken from the GALA team in advance of the event taking place.

The landscaping company contracted to undertake works this year will be attending site with GALA, Parks and Events officers to assess any damage on Friday 31 May and a reinstatement plan will be agreed and then actioned as quickly as possible. Details of the reinstatement plan will be circulated to stakeholders, so that all parties are aware of the works to be carried out and the timeline for completion.

A network of trakway paths will be installed before any heavy vehicle movement can take place. An increased amount of trakway is being used this year. Heavy vehicles must stay on trakway paths. Grass tyres have been ordered for all plant and machinery.

The anticipated number of attendees for the event will not exceed 27,000 people over the course of the three days and audience movement will be spread out across the site and staggered between 11am and 10:30pm. All event plans are reviewed by Parks, Ecology and Arboriculture officers and the potential for soil compaction due to pedestrian activity at this event has never been deemed a cause for concern.

**Litter:**

The GALA team must be compliant with the waste management conditions attached to their Premises Licence (879391):

*381 The PLH shall have in place an arrangement (contract) with a reputable Waste Management Company to manage the event site and externally affected areas for the duration of the event and a post event clean up.*

*364 All drinks shall be sold in either opened cans, PET containers or decanted into polycarbonate vessels. No glass drinking vessels will be permitted into the public festival arena. Glass bottles will be retained behind bars for disposal.*

The GALA team must be compliant with the terms and conditions of their event licence, [Outdoor Events Policy](#) and the [Events Environmental Sustainability Guide](#) in relation to waste management.

The GALA team accept that the waste management operation and post-event clean up has not been to a satisfactory standard in the past. As such, they will be engaging an experienced outdoor event waste management and litter picking team this year. The contractor is:

Elite Corporate Cleaning Services

Litter will be picked inside and outside of the event site. If anyone is experiencing any issues with event-related litter around the event site, or in private front gardens, they should call the dedicated Community Event Manager, who will be monitoring external waste teams and able to respond to resident queries and concerns promptly, on the community hotline number, or email the community email address: [community@thisisgala.co.uk](mailto:community@thisisgala.co.uk)

A final site check will be made by Parks and Event Officers, with an invitation for the Friends of Peckham Rye Park to attend to ensure all parties are satisfied with the standard of the site clean-up.

The GALA team will also undertake a post-event site walk with their Traffic Management company to ensure that all signage is removed post-event.

The traffic management contractor is [CTM Event Traffic Management](#). CTM have been operating since 1998 and deliver traffic management solutions for some of the UKs most prestigious events, including Glastonbury.

**Environmental responsibility:**

The GALA team must comply with the council's [Events Environmental Sustainability Guide](#).

The GALA team are required to implement site protection measures and carry out whichever wildlife surveys are deemed necessary by the council's Parks and Ecology team. The results of wildlife surveys will be published once completed.

This year, the GALA team propose to release a budget specifically for park ecology investments (in addition to their existing financial contributions). They

will liaise with the Friends of Peckham Rye Park to decide how best this is spent.

To confirm, there are no plans to remove any trees from the park and there never have been any plans to remove trees since the event started in 2018. We believe that there has been some confusion with plans for the Lost Peck Flood Alleviation project, which could have had plans for tree felling at some stage. The GALA team are required to provide a tree protection plan to the council's Arboriculture team before they can move on to site.

The provision of ground protection will be increased this year to bolster mitigation against ground damage.

It is acknowledged that the GALA event has a bigger environmental impact compared to smaller events like Zippos Circus; however, we believe the mitigation plans for these impacts are robust, and that the wider positive social and economic contributions of the event render it worthwhile. The council and the GALA team will always strive to achieve the appropriate balance.

It is acknowledged that during the build and break periods, the potential for air pollution caused by idling lorries in the area next to the café and children's play area is increased. GALA has therefore implemented an engine idling policy, and are committed to enforcing it rigorously. There will be no idling of engines, with exceptions only for chilled goods vehicles, which will be expedited into the site.

GALA voluntarily reports on emissions data to the Council.

GALA's comprehensive reporting practices currently surpass industry standards.

GALA's net zero greenhouse gas emissions strategy, with outlined targets and areas for improvement, is available on their website:

<https://thisisgala.co.uk/sustainability>

GALA is continuing to transition to biodiesel fuel sources and the event's temporary power system design prioritises fuel efficiency.

GALA operate a reusable cups system and are aware there have been breakages in the past, as well as other concerns. They are committed to increase the number of cup collection bins, as well as enhancing signage to direct attendees towards these and positioning bins in easy to reach locations along exit routes.

With regards to the comments on greenhouse gas emissions inventory, GALA are more than happy to discuss with people in more detail. Please contact:

[hello@thisisgala.co.uk](mailto:hello@thisisgala.co.uk)

### **3. Impact on the park, park users and the local area**

It is acknowledged by both the council and the GALA team that the event is not popular with everyone, but there is evidence to suggest that the event has



significant local support. The following resident ticket arrangements are in place:

3,000 tickets are available for Friday

500 tickets are available for Saturday and Sunday

Discount is 33% vs first release and 50 - 60% vs final release. (£25 for Friday, £30 for sat and sun)

500 free tickets are available to allocate to charity and community groups.

Please check the GALA web site for more details on resident tickets:

<https://thisisgala.co.uk/local-community/>

Peckham Rye Park is a public amenity space, which is intended to be used for a mixture of recreational and community activities, including events. Outdoor events in Southwark are well known to support and celebrate diversity and the council strives to facilitate a varied and well-managed outdoor events programme for the benefit of local people.

The GALA event has been taking place in Peckham Rye Park since 2018 (not including 2020). It moved from Brockwell Park after its preferred dates at that site were offered to another event. Other events, such as Zippos Circus, Carters Steam Fair, the Peckham and Nunhead Free Film Festival, Kidzfun, the FoPRP Fete and some outdoor theatre productions have all taken place previously in/on the park/common, so the area has a history of successfully hosting events.

The area of park used for the GALA event will not be accessible for usual use for a period of 19 days. The decision to allow the event to use the space for this period is based on how much space (compared to that which is being occupied by the event) is left available for people to use and what the ratio of the number of days' use is, in relation to the remaining number of available days in a calendar year.

Space:

The event space takes up approx. 12% of all space (park and common), which is available for the public to access, leaving 88% accessible. The common has been included in this calculation because the two sites are connected and the common has lots of similar, open green space to offer for various activities such as picnics, games, jogging, sports, dog walking etc.

Time:

The 19 days that GALA will occupy the site equates to just over 5% of the calendar year and is available for usual use the remaining 346 days.

GALA operate to a strict production schedule and 19 days is the number of days that allows for the safe construction and deconstruction of their event site. The number of days on site has increased since the event first took place in 2018; the extra days are to accommodate enhanced site and ground protection measures, which have been included as the event has developed. Two days (one on build and one on break) have been added to accommodate the installation and removal of a network of additional trackway routes around the site for example. These additional days also allow more time to manage a

schedule for the number of bigger production vehicles accessing the site via Strakers Road.

It is acknowledged that some park users habitually prefer to use the park as opposed to the common, but 88% of available open Green space in this location will remain available to use whilst the event is on site.

The GALA team have always applied to use Peckham Rye Park to host the event as this is their preferred location. The application to use Peckham Rye Park is always processed in line with the council's Outdoor Events Policy.

It is very unlikely that the GALA event could take place at another location in the borough. The event site has been designed specifically for Peckham Rye Park (since 2018) and other locations in Southwark, which could feasibly accommodate the GALA event already host a programme of annual events.

The steel shield perimeter fencing is both a safety and privacy requirement. It is necessary to manage people both inside and outside of the event space and to protect equipment and infrastructure within the event space. It is acknowledged by all that it's not aesthetically pleasing, but its function is key to the safe and successful delivery of the event. There is one designated footpath that is enclosed by the fencing, but GALA endeavour to keep all other designated footpaths (and desire lines, if they can) around the perimeter of the fencing clear and unobstructed, so that they can be used as normal.

The footpath that runs from opposite Friern Road to the entrance to The Oval is used as the route for vehicle access into the event site, therefore stewards have to sometimes temporarily ask members of the public to wait whilst there is vehicle activity in this area. This is to keep everyone safe. Production vehicles will always give right of way to members of the public when possible. The traffic marshals who are responsible for accompanying all vehicles to and from the event site are fully briefed in this respect. The first few days of setting up are busiest.

Toilets - acknowledging concerns about unsatisfactory toilet provision external to the event, GALA have taken proactive measures to address this issue. There is to be a significant increase in the provision of toilets external to the event site to mitigate public urination in the park. There will also be additional stewarding and signage in place to ensure these facilities are visible. This step is part of GALA's commitment to enhancing facilities and minimising any inconvenience to both attendees and the local community.

#### **4. Noise nuisance**

The GALA team have to comply with the noise management conditions attached to their Premises Licence (879391):

*373 The PLH will be required to employ a Noise Management Consultant who shall produce a Noise Management Plan (NMP).*

*374 The Noise Management Consultant will carry out a test of the noise sources prior to the event. The tests shall be conducted at a distance of 1m from the façade of the nearest noise sensitive premises.*

*309 The PLH will ensure an officer from Environmental Protection Team (EPT) is invited to the proposed sound tests prior to the event (preferably one day before the event).*

*375 The PLH shall ensure that all reasonable requests from the Council Officers are complied with.*

*304 The details of two contact telephone numbers, including a mobile telephone number, permanently staffed during performances, will be made available to council officers prior to the event(s).*

*376 At least one week prior to the beginning of the event, a leaflet drop is to be made to households in the immediate area. The leaflet is to include a timetable and description of each performance and the contact telephone numbers.*

*239 The PLH should ensure that the music noise level limits proposed in the noise management plan are not exceeded during the event. These limits shall be subject to review during this event and future events if EPT are to receive a substantiated noise complaint at any point during the event.*

*323 The PLH will ensure that regular checks are to be carried out at a distance of 1m from the façade of the nearest noise sensitive locations to the event (e.g. houses, residential homes, churches as described in the NMP) to monitor the noise and ensure that the limits agreed are not exceeded.*

*377 The volume of all sound equipment on site shall be the responsibility of the Noise Management Consultant appointed by the PLH.*

*378 No additional sound equipment (other than that described in the ESMP/NMP) shall be used on site without the prior agreement of the council's EPT and the appointed Noise Management Consultant.*

*379 The appointed Noise Management Consultant shall continually monitor noise levels at the sound mixer position and instruct the sound engineer accordingly to ensure that the above noise limits are not exceeded. The Council shall have access to the results of the noise monitoring at any time.*

*380 The Noise Management Plan (NMP) will need to be agreed with Southwark EPT no later than 14 days prior to any event taking place.*

The GALA team have to deliver their event in compliance with the council's [Outdoor Events Policy](#) (OEP) and specific conditions of site hire, which are relevant to noise. Please note that the OEP/site conditions refer to an outdated document 'Noise Conditions for Open Air Events in Southwark'. The document can still be found by a Google search, but it is no longer available on the council web site and is not a valid document. It is replaced by the guidance given in the document 'London Borough of Southwark Technical Guidance for Noise', which can be found on this page:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/environment/environmental-protection/environmental-noise>

As per all previous events, the GALA team work with independent noise consultants who produce a site-specific Noise Management Plan (NMP). The

NMP is produced in liaison with the council's Environmental Protection Team. Decibel (dB) levels at the nearest noise sensitive premises are set by the council and these are in line with the majority of other London parks and venues.

There is no change, this year, to the arrangement of GALA setting their noise levels to up to 70dbs for 70% of the acts/performances and up to 75dbs for 30% of the acts/performances.

GALA's noise monitoring contractor is: [F1 Acoustics](#) who have extensive experience consulting for a large number of multi- and single-stage events, including some of the UK's biggest music festivals.

The designated noise monitoring points are **Parklands, Colyton Road, St Aidens Road, Dukes Court** and **Rye Hill Park**. These points will be monitored frequently, but noise consultants will respond to anyone who contacts GALA's dedicated Community Event Manager on the community hotline number or at the community email address: [community@thisisgala.co.uk](mailto:community@thisisgala.co.uk) and attend the location to take readings. They will confirm if they have already taken a recent reading from that location.

The noise monitoring report for last year's event confirm that noise levels set by the council were not exceeded, although levels came close to the limit of 75 dbs at various times and locations. For the majority of each day, levels did not exceed 70db.

GALA's noise monitoring team will have a direct line of communication to the council's Noise and Nuisance team in order to jointly monitor and respond to complaints if and when required.

The council's Noise Nuisance team can be contacted by phoning: **0207 525 5777** or emailing: [noiseandnuisance@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:noiseandnuisance@southwark.gov.uk)

The GALA team and the council can both be contacted on the numbers/at the email addresses given on build and break days too. People experiencing noise nuisance from activity associated with any event production activity are able to report it.

The children's playground will be open as usual and noise levels in this area, which is away from the event site, are not expected to have a detrimental impact on anyone in the playground. Music will be audible, but not at a level expected to impact negatively on users of that space.

The finish time of 10:30pm is usual for many similar events, both in Southwark and across London.

The GALA team have previously communicated directly with exam officers at Harris Boys and Harris Girls schools to ensure that any potential noise impact on students revising for or sitting exams, is minimised, and they will do the same this year.

## **5. Safety and security**

The GALA team have to comply with relevant safety-specific conditions attached to their Premises Licence (879391):

*344 Each and every event would be presented individually to the SAG.*

*351 An event and site-specific Event Safety Management Plan will be developed and shared with the Licensing Authority and SAG.*

*352 The ESMP will include details on the following subjects: Event Risk Assessments, Event Schedule, Site Plan, Fire Risk Assessment, Security & Crowd Management Plan, Drugs Policy, Alcohol Management Plan, Traffic Management Plan, Egress / Dispersal Plan, Waste Management Plan, Medical Management Plan, Adverse Weather Plan, Crisis Communication Plan, Noise Management Plan, Sanitation Plan, Child Welfare/Vulnerable Persons Policy. These documents will be 'living documents' which will be reviewed and revised in the planning phases of the events.*

*353 The premises will be run in accordance with the event management plan submitted*

*354 The written dispersal policy shall be kept at the premises with the licence and made available for inspection by authorised council officers or the police. All relevant staff shall be trained in the implementation of the dispersal policy*

*357 A suitable and experienced security and stewarding company will be appointed to ensure public safety and to prevent crime and disorder.*

*358 The ESMP Security & Crowd Management Plan (CMP) will outline the number, position and roles of the Security and Stewarding staff working at the event.*

*362 Anyone found with an offensive weapon on entry will be refused admittance and the Police informed immediately.*

*365 An event and site-specific Risk Assessment (RA) and Fire Risk Assessment (FRA) will be undertaken and implemented.*

*369 Stewards and Marshals will be deployed to manage the egress phase of the events. These Stewards and Marshals will wear Hi-Visibility tabards. The number, role and position of these staff will be detailed in the ESMP and relevant appendices and assessed dynamically on-site by the PLH.*

The GALA team have to deliver their event in compliance with the council's [Outdoor Events Policy](#) (OEP) and the specific conditions of site hire, which are relevant to safety and security.

All elements of GALA's event safety management plan will need to be signed off by Southwark's Safety Advisory Group (SAG) before the event can go ahead. Members of the SAG include the Met Police who liaise with the GALA team about security provision and operations.

The GALA team will be required to produce a specific traffic management plan (TMP), crowd management plan and public safety/safeguarding plan for the area surrounding The Round Café and the children's playground – this is a designated 'sensitive' location' in terms of the movement of production

vehicles and event attendees. The TMP will include the provision of Traffic personnel to escort all vehicles along the route during build and break periods. During the live event there will be dedicated security stewards monitoring the area and the event Community Manager will identify it as an area requiring regular security patrols. There will also be posters with the community hot line number displayed in the playground, should people need to contact the event management team.

GALA's security and crowd management contractor is [Alliance Management Group](#), first established as Alliance Events in 2017 to provide professional, approachable and reliable staffing solutions for crowd, security and traffic management requirements.

Alliance will provide external security to areas that have been identified as requiring specific attention based on previous events. These areas include the Oval, Piermont Green, the corner of Colyton Road, junction with Forest Hill Road and the Taxi pick up and drop off location. In addition to this, there are external response teams who can attend area hot spots when they are required to support.

Gala has a robust Wellbeing Policy in place, which includes a zero tolerance response to harassment, abuse and assault of any kind, whether verbal or physical. The policy includes measures put in place to support Southwark's Women's Safety Charter, outlining that responsibility goes beyond the event site, ensuring that women can travel around the event site and get home safely. This is supported through specific training of security and stewards to keep an eye out for vulnerable women as they are leaving the event, a welfare team within the event to act as a rest stop to give space to those who are not able to get themselves home safely yet and traffic and security personnel to ensure women are safely getting into the correct taxis. Additional lighting will be added to the steelshield fencing and directed onto the footpath to ensure people walking through the park along the steel shield line at dusk, or during the hours of darkness feel safe. There will be security personnel inside the event site who will also take regular patrols of the external perimeter.

Security personnel will be stationed at the gate at Colyton Road, and portaloos will be sited very close to the gate for attendees to use before they go into the event site. This is to stop the issue of public urination in this area, which has occurred during previous events.

Hire bikes – it is acknowledged that hire bikes (Lime bikes in particular) caused obstruction around the park, impacting pavements, pedestrian walkways, cycle routes, and traffic. GALA is actively addressing this issue by collaborating with bike operators to establish exclusion zones around the park, preventing users from leaving bikes near the event site. GALA will also have staff available to move bikes if required, as it is recognised that some people will ignore the exclusion zone(s).

Following GALA 2023, the Metropolitan Police's crime report outlined no significant correlation of increased theft or crimes whilst the event was on site. The Police have not raised objection to the event taking place since it first started in 2018.

Anyone experiencing or witnessing criminal activity should report the incident to the Police as they would normally do and the Police will respond in the usual fashion.

### **Traffic management**

The GALA team have to comply with any traffic and transport management conditions attached to their Premises Licence (879391):

*370 The ESMP will consider any service disruptions to local rail services and any subsequent rail replacement bus services.*

*372 The Traffic Management Plan (TMP) will be developed following consultation with Southwark Highways and Parking departments as well as TfL. The TMP will be adhered to during the event.*

The GALA team have to deliver their event in compliance with the council's [Outdoor Events Policy](#) and the terms and conditions of site hire that are relevant to traffic management.

Historical data shows that the majority of attendees arrive by using either public transport or taxi / Private Hire Vehicle (PHV).

No reference has been made, through the SAG process, of any parking or traffic disruption caused at previous events, but the resident reports of parking issues at Piermont Green and Rye Court Flats were acknowledged after the event in 2022 and we believe these issues were resolved in 2023 following provisions that were put in. The same provision is to be implemented this year.

The GALA team create a taxi pick up and drop off point (PUDO) in an area close to the junction of Strakers Road and Peckham Rye (East). This is to try and alleviate congestion caused by taxi's and PHV's on the surrounding roads. In particular, any Ubers that are booked get directed to the PUDO. It is acknowledged that some event attendees will head onto the local roads to find and flag down taxis instead of going to the PUDO, but this generally happens when the event has closed and the volume of people outside of the event space is at its greatest. There is a 20-30 min period from 10:30pm when Peckham Rye (East) does become very busy with people and traffic so the GALA team have stewards on crossing points to manage this.

AA signage – the traffic management company have been made aware of the issue with signage not being collected/blocking footpaths and will take measures to prevent this from happening this year. Placing signage on pavements will be strictly prohibited from now on.

The local resident phone line will be operational throughout the entire time the event is on the site and staff will be available to assist and remedy any urgent traffic management issues if they arise.

## **6. Community benefits and event programming**

## **Community benefits:**

The GALA event contributes to the park, local people and the local area in various ways:

The site hire fee goes towards off-setting the running costs of Southwark's Culture and Events service, which supports the planning and delivery of 50+ community events across the borough every year as well as a wide range of cultural programmes and initiatives for local people.

Site hire fees from commercial events in particular, support free community events every year (Cultural Celebrations Fund - £95k). 14 events have been recommended for funding this year, across 10 wards in the borough.

The Environmental Impact Fee (EIF) charged in addition to the site hire fee is specifically ring-fenced to be spent on projects or works that enhance the Park and/or common. The EIF in 2022 was spent on planting improvements to the sensory beds and Japanese garden within the park and bulb planting in the park and on the common. In 2023, the EIF was spent on the enhanced presence for seasonal staff to develop some of the projects and themes favoured by the by Friends of Peckham Rye Park – such as the American Garden & biodiversity enhancements.

The GALA team allocate a significant number of free and discounted tickets for local people and charities. The number of tickets allocated in 2022 was 3,500, The number of tickets allocated in 2023 was 3,600.

Postcode data shows that 1 in 4 of all ticket holders were from South East London, of which 41% were from hyper local postcodes: SE15 and SE22. This demonstrates to us high demand from local residents.

The GALA team will use the Southwark Presents platform and the Tickets for Good platform to help promote and distribute their discounted and free tickets to Southwark residents and NHS workers.

GALA collaborates with local partners and supports Southwark charities, previously including South London Gallery, Born & Bread and Southwark Day Care Centre for Asylum Seekers.

GALA showcases local talent (South London). Last year's programme included:

Anja Ngozi, Baby K BORN N BREAD, Bradley Zero, Charlie Dark, ERICA, Helena Star, OK Williams, George Riley, Nubya Garcia, Big Diyke Energy, Overmono, Hannah Holland, Melo, Horse Meat Disco, ORII Orchestra, Jordan Rakei, Baby K.

BORN N BREAD, Bradley Zero and Jordan Rakei are from Peckham.

GALA employs local people via arrangements with its security and bar providers and offers trade and supply opportunities to local businesses, if they are able to meet requirements.

GALA generates income for local businesses in the surrounding area. Event attendees are known to visit shops, restaurants/cafes and bars before and



after the event. After Parties are usually hosted at local venues. Arch 164 on Rye Lane and Corsica Studios in Elephant and Castle hosted in 2023.

To find out more about access to resident/charity tickets, or employment/trading/performing opportunities please visit:  
<https://thisisgala.co.uk/local-community/>

### **Event programming:**

A family-friendly day was planned for this year on Bank Holiday Monday 27 May; however, a suitable partner could not be secured for 2024.

## **7. Support**

The council received a number of representations articulating support for the event. The council will strive to facilitate a varied and diverse outdoor live events programme for people living, working, studying in and visiting Southwark to enjoy and experience.

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This concludes our report. We hope that this information is helpful to you and has offered some detail and context around concerns raised and the measures and additional mitigation plans being introduced as a result. On this basis, it is the council's intention to issue GALA an events licence, subject to all conditions as well as the measures outlined in this report being met by the promoter.

If you have any questions about the information provided, or wish to add further comment about this application, please don't hesitate to contact us **by 12 noon on Friday 15 March 2024** via [events@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:events@southwark.gov.uk).

If you prefer to speak to someone in the borough's Culture and Events team, you can also call: **020 7525 3422**, but please note that this phone line is not staffed at all times, so if there is no answer straightaway, please leave a message and we will respond to you as soon as we can.

If you wish to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> GALA stakeholder engagement meeting on Tuesday 5 March, please email:

[community@thisisgala.co.uk](mailto:community@thisisgala.co.uk)

Best wishes,

Charlie Simm on behalf of Southwark Events team.