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Directorate of Culture & City
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City Development - Licensing
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Children, Families and Education

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Our Ref: AJ050

Date: 8th November 2017

Dear Licensing Committee

Mutiny Review

I am writing to support the request from the Police for a complete overhaul of the terms of the license for the Mutiny festival in relation to children under the age of 18. I am writing with regard to the licensing objective of protecting children from harm.

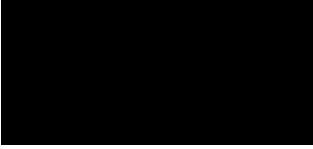
The risks to children of a repeat of the experience in 2017 are set out very clearly in both the Police report and the separate submission from the Director of Public Health.

National licensing guidance is clear (section 182 of the Act, section 2.23 of the statutory guidance) that conditions restricting the access of children to premises should be strongly considered in circumstances where it is known that unaccompanied children have been allowed access and/or there is a known association with drug taking or dealing.

My view is that there is a very strong case for the option put forward by the Police of restricting the license for the Festival to adults aged 18 and over, and for managing admission arrangements tightly to ensure that this condition is respected. We know from our regular engagement with the Police over this year that the level of illegal activity around recreational drugs has increased in the city. We have seen no reduction this year in the level of risk of exploitation, sexual and criminal, to which children under 18 are exposed. On the contrary, the level of risk remains high. Arrangements which seek to mitigate the risks to children from access to large scale festivals by seeking to engage adult carers are very difficult to deliver effectively, as the experience of the 2017 event demonstrates. The Council needs to act to prevent harm to children. Straightforward restriction of the license to age 18 and over, as recommended by the Police, is an appropriate response to the actual harm which was clearly experienced by a number of

children this year, despite a wide range of actions to try to manage the risk.

Yours sincerely,



Alison Jeffery
Director of Children, Families and Education