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Phone: 023 92 [REDACTED]  
Ref:  
Date: 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Dear Ms Humphreys

**Re: LICENSING ACT 2003 - REVIEW APPLICATION - MUTINY FESTIVAL**

This is a representation in support of the Mutiny Festival and for the maintenance of the status quo on the current License for future events to take place at King George V Playing Field, Cosham.

As the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport the service I represent works closely with a wide range of both internal Portsmouth City Council and external services to support the delivery of a spectrum of events throughout the city. An integral part of this is to ensure that events are delivered safely and in accordance with the legislation which applies and the recommended standards as set out in the 'Purple Guide'.

I can confirm that I have personally visited the Mutiny Festival both in its previous iteration in Fontwell in 2015 and then again since it has been in Portsmouth in both 2016 and 2017. I feel that the current representation for a Licensing Review is disproportionate in providing evidence from all Mutiny Festivals since 2014 without demonstrating that in the majority of instances the specific issues which were raised were addressed by the premises license holder, picking up on areas of concern and implementing new ways of working in each year.

Whilst I am not disputing the incidents which are outlined in Annex F of the review papers and I am pleased to note that the *'Chief Officer of Police accepts that the working relationship with the premises licence holder is a positive one'* I do take issue with the view that the Licence holder has *'demonstrated an inability to successfully action their own policies and procedures'*.

It is clear from the grounds for review (pg 8 & 9) that further changes were implemented in 2017 following discussions with the Police after the 2016 event. However no reference appears to have been made to the extraordinary circumstances the premises license holder found himself in following the Manchester Arena attack the Monday prior to the Mutiny Festival. As I am sure you will appreciate this put significant additional burden onto the event organisers as their whole event was re-evaluated resulting in Mutiny having to put in place additional measures. In particular this resulted in specific changes and frequently changing information for the egress plans which were being responded to following national advice.

As stated at the end of the grounds for review a note is made of the engagement post the 2017 event and the outline proposals Annex G, which the premises licence holder has submitted and outlined for implementation for any future events. I believe that if implemented, these proposals would address the core areas of the license delivery which are a cause for concern and have resulted in this Licensing Review being instigated by Chief Officer of Police.

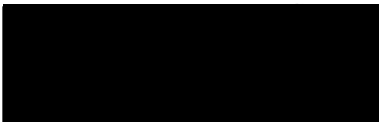
Annex G proposes a different approach to the event delivery in three core areas:

- Process for Under 18s
- Delivery of a more effective entrance and egress procedures
- New Event Liaison Team working area

Whilst there is evidence of detail behind these revised working proposals and how they will be implemented and the expected outcome of their implementation in Annex G there is no evidence of any further response to these from the Police or indeed any further suggested improvements which the premises license holder could implement which is disappointing considering these were submitted to the Police in July 2017.

I believe that the premises license holder should have an opportunity to implement the proposals as outlined in Annex G and for this to be closely monitored for effectiveness prior to any changes in the current License being implemented.

Yours sincerely



**Cllr Linda Symes**

**Cabinet Member Culture, Leisure & Sport**