

Sounds Beautiful 2025 Noise Management Plan

This Noise Management Plan (NMP) contains details of the noise management strategies, staffing levels, control methodologies and procedures that will be implemented by Sounds Beautiful on site sound technicians to ensure that the licensing objectives for the prevention of public nuisance are promoted.

Sounds Beautiful sound technicians will be using National Guidelines, The Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts (The Noise Council, 1995) to tailor this Noise Management Plan for the type of event, number of customers, number of stages and location to ensure an achievable protocol for sound control is established. It is proposed that any conditions relating to the permitted music noise levels for the event reflect the guidance contained in the 'Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concert

Site Location

Gaunts House, Petersham Lane, Wimborne, BH21 4JD

The character of the area is rural. The main environmental noise sources in the area will be those associated with a rural environment with noise sources including road traffic on the local road network and natural environmental sources including wind in the trees and animals

The Sounds Beautiful 2025 event will be held on Thursday 26th Friday 27th, Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th June 2025, with the main stage named Quentin operating from 11:00 to 23:00 and the Hood In The Wood Stage 18:00 to 00:00 on the Friday and Saturday night . The program is such that the acts will be staggered from the early eve so only one stage will be playing Music at any one time.

the orientation and location of the stages have been placed to maximise the benefits of the site layout with regard to the off-site NSRs, i.e. with the rear of the stage facing towards the closest receptors thus utilising the inherent directivity of the sound systems where possible

The sound systems will have appropriate controls for adjusting and fine-tuning individual third octave-bands. A multi-band compressor/limiter will also be used on the sound systems to provide greater control of the sound level output and will be used as necessary. The only people with access to change the settings on the compressors/limiters will be members of the sound engineering team

Extraneous Noise

The generator will be a silent diesel generator which will be fenced off from the public and further sound proofed with straw bale barriers.

The carpark and gate will be managed by a steward and 24 hr SIA security which will ensure minimum noise on exit from the festival.

The same is true of the campsite and arena and night time parties in the camping area are

not allowed. There is a fire pit in the main arena where quiet chatting after hours will be allowed.

No day tickets are on sale so most people will be staying on site once in the Festival and not exiting at night.

Sound Control Procedure

To ensure the noise objectives contained within the Licence are achieved, all the steps of the sound control procedure outlined below will be adopted. It is anticipated that staff carrying out the sound control program will work closely with the Local Authority Officers before and during the events.

A team consisting of one sound control consultant and one sound control technician will be working at the event. They will be working to control the sound throughout the opening times of the stage, unless programmed entertainment finishes earlier.

The sound control team will liaise with the team of audio engineers based at the main stage and operators of any approved smaller sound systems around the site (e.g. traders). The audio engineers will work under the instruction of the sound control team and put into place any required alterations to the sound systems overall or frequency based output to achieve compliance with the proposed MNL limits.

Sound Control Program

Prior to the event, we will contact local residents of noise sensitive premises detailing the community hotline telephone number, nature, timings of the programmed entertainment, sound checks and propagation tests of the event. However, it is the intention of the noise management plan to control noise levels such that complaints do not arise.

The sound consultant will be

using a professional handheld XL2 Audio and acoustic Analyzer. The sound consultant is a sound engineer who has over 25 years of experience in taking noise level readings at numerous events and working in the audio industry.

A phone line will be made available to local residents which they can call at any time during the festival by which to make an objection to noise levels.

If a complaint has arisen as part of the complaint logging process, we shall ask the complainant for their address or approximate location and dispatch a member of the event management team to this location to take a Db level reading to check if excessive volumes are present at this location. Should an issue be identified with a particular location and/or a particular surrounding area the event manager will look to adjust the main stage volume levels accordingly and a log will be made of this action taking place and a further metre reading will be taken at the location.

The build and breakdown will occur in the days before and after the event. In order to limit any additional noise experienced by local residents causing a disturbance any build or breakdown activities that are considered noisy will only take place between the hours of 08:00 and 18:00 Monday – Saturday and between the hours of 10:00 and 18:00 on a Sunday.

Sound propagation tests will be carried out in the morning of the event, not before 10:00

The sound propagation tests consist of playing music, similar to the programmed artists, through the sound system and measuring the MNL at a fixed monitoring point to be used throughout the event in the front of house (FOH) area, ideally at the mixing position if located FOH. Off-site measurements at the nearest identified NSRs will also be taken for each stage to allow identification of any potential problems from the stage at individual NSRs. These tests take account of all physical factors (e.g. distance, ground absorption, air absorption and meteorological conditions) such that the on-site operating levels can be adjusted and set to achieve compliance with the off-site licence conditions before the start of the event.

During the event a sound level data logger and decibel meter device will be installed at the main stage front of house mixing position. This monitors the sound levels and log data in real time as a record of sound levels throughout the event. This device has a 0.1 decibel resolution and accurate to within 1.5dB. It operates on a A/C frequency rating and will be set to log data every 60 seconds. The full log of this monitoring will be made available upon request post event. In addition to this a mobile monitoring device will be used to measure dB levels around the event footprint every hour to ensure excessive levels are not reached around the immediate vicinity of the venue

The noise monitoring

Noise and Safety

The event will be compliant with the Health and Safety Executives "The Control of Noise at Work Regulations 2005". Ear protection will be available to both staff and customers upon request during the event. The programming of the event allows for periods of time between

All noise level readings will be updated on a google spreadsheet that will be made available to the council members to check as and when they are recorded.

Currently we expect the noise level at the nearest property to be no more than 34dba after hours to comply with current legal limits.

acts when attendees will not be exposed to hazardous levels of sound. Playback will be used between acts and the volume level of playback will not exceed 85bD. Should any form of incident occur that requires the site to be evacuated, live performance and playback will cease immediately and the P.A system will only be used for distributing key information as required and if safe to do so.