

On behalf of the Dorset Council Safety Advisory Group, I am making a representation in respect of the following application for a premises licence to be granted under the Licensing Act 2003

Applicant: Guggleton Farm Arts CIC

Premises: Stalbridge Recreation Ground, Park Grove, DT10 2RG

This representation relates to the following licensing objectives:

- the prevention of crime and disorder
- public safety
- the prevention of public nuisance; and
- the protection of children from harm.

Reasons for representation

Extracts from relevant legislation, policies, and guidance

Dorset Council Statement of Licensing Policy 2026 -2031 published February 2026

- 1.4 The council will carry out its functions under the Licensing Act 2003 with a view to promoting the licensing objectives namely:
- The prevention of crime and disorder
 - Public safety
 - The prevention of public nuisance
 - The protection of children from harm
- 5.20 The promotion and the organisation of live musical and similar entertainment in the open air or in temporary structures like marquees etc. can provide opportunities for community involvement, civic pride and can attract visitors to the Dorset Council area.
- 5.21 However, the success of such events by way of contribution to the council's cultural and tourist strategies depends upon the quality, levels of safety and consideration for the rights of people who live or work in the vicinity and the standard of provision of facilities for those coming to enjoy the event.

Revised guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (February 2026)

1.16 Licence conditions:

must be appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives;

must be precise and enforceable;

must be unambiguous and clear in what they intend to achieve;

should be proportionate, justifiable and be capable of being met;

- 8.47 Applicants are expected to provide licensing authorities with sufficient information in this section to determine the extent to which their proposed steps are appropriate to promote the licensing objectives in the local area. Applications must not be based on providing a set of standard conditions to promote the licensing objectives and applicants are expected to make it clear why the steps they are proposing are appropriate for the premises.

Dorset Council Public Events Planning Webpage

Event Guidance

To assist event organisers and applicants the council publishes guidance and document templates on its public events planning webpage.

Representation

The SAG considers that there is insufficient detail within the application to determine how the steps proposed to promote the licensing objectives will be implemented. Furthermore, the event management documents submitted to the SAG only provide aspirational comments from the applicants as to how they will protect public safety, mitigate risks and promote best practice.

The applicants have met with representatives of the SAG and agreed to submit additional information and provide an opportunity for all responsible and other regulatory authorities to gain certainty that whatever is conditioned on the licence can be satisfactorily delivered.

The SAG asks that the licensing authority, in the public interest, uses its powers under the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005 to extend the timescales for a hearing be held so that the SAG may consider the additional details and reach a position where it can advise the authority that the licence when issued will be clear, concise, appropriate, and proportionate.

Suggested conditions that could be added to the licence to remedy this representation:

There are no suggested conditions that would serve to remedy this representation.

Suggested actions that could be undertaken to remedy this representation.

That the determination of the application be postponed until such time as the SAG have formally assessed the event proposals and issued a notice of positive assessment.



Ian Carter

Senior Licensing Officer / Chair - Dorset Council Safety Advisory Group

sag@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk 