# TYPE OF APPLICATION: CAPACITY EXEMPTION REQUEST APPLICANT: SAR GLOBAL LIMITED

#### **DESCRIPTION**

The Sub-Committee have before them an application from SAR Global Limited seeking approval for a Public Entertainment Licence with a capacity of 2,500.

Event capacities are current restricted due to COVID -19 as follows:

Indoor events should not exceed 2000 attendees, unless granted an exemption by a local authority

The Sub Committee can reach the following decisions:

- a) To approve the application and permit a capacity of 2,500
- b) To approve the application for a figure in excess of 2,000 but less than the requested 2,500 or
- c) To refuse the application and determine that the standard capacity limit of 2,000 should be maintained

Where there is concern the event cannot be held safely the Local Authority may consider:

- reducing the number of attendees to minimise any burden on local transport systems
- staggering entry times with other venues and taking steps to avoid queues building up in surrounding areas
- arranging one-way travel routes between transport hubs and venues
- advising patrons to follow safer travel guidance, including:
  - o travelling on quieter routes where possible
  - sanitising hands regularly
  - wearing a face covering unless exempt
  - physical distancing where possible

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#### **DECISION MAKING DOCUMENT**

Are the capacity caps above what is allowed per the protection levels?	Yes
Is there a risk to local population health, taking into account local trends in the prevalence of coronavirus- available via Public Health Scotland.	
Has the event organiser/venue operator carried out a comprehensive risk assessment?	Yes – Environmental Health have reviewed the risk assessments and are satisfied.
Has the event organiser/venue operator taken into account relevant COVID-safety or relevant sector guidance?	Yes, there is a Covid-19 risk assessment and they have implemented satisfactory controls.
Can/will all mitigations be operated effectively?	From the risk assessment, they appear to have put appropriate actions in place in order to achieve the controls stated.
Has the event organiser/venue operator undertaken an Equalities Impact Assessment, ensuring that measures take into account diversity & equality concerns and those of disabled people?	<ul> <li>The operator has assessed the event and has the following provision:</li> <li>Dedicated Wellness area – a quiet zone for persons who may have autism or related needs as well as a safe space to provide medical treatment and first aid.</li> <li>There are a number of features in place to encourage accessibility including plentiful non stair access, ramps, lift facilities and accessible toilets.</li> </ul>

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	Staff and security are specially trained to assist customers with disabilities.
What will be the impact on the local area and other adjacent areas?	Given the particular nature of the event location on the Esplanade the operator views the possibility of adverse impact on the local area as minimal – there is no residential properties in the immediate area and the other businesses along the Esplanade will all be closed when the event is in operation.
Has the event organiser/venue operator engaged with neighbouring businesses, transport operators and local police to assess and mitigate risks arising from pressure on local and public transport?	The event operator has engaged with police throughout the event preparation and they and the "Cultivate" brand are very well known to local officers given previous events in 2019 and 2020. The event operator has engaged with local firms Rainbow City and Concabs to put on extra cars around the event and in particular the close down period, as a part of their proactive dispersal policy.
Has the event organiser/venue operator engaged with local accommodation providers in the area in the event of overnight stays, including for event staff, workers and contractors	The operator is happy to confirm that staff and guest performers are all booked into various hotels across the city but in any event these are fairly low-level numbers and would not have any material impact on the accommodation provision in Aberdeen.
Has the event organiser/venue operator considered the impact of increased footfall on the surrounding area and infrastructure (for example, queue management and crowding outside of a venue)?	Full Crowd Management assessment is covered at 6.9 of the Event Management Plan (EMP. The EMP also contains related information such as: Stewarding provision – 6.8 Evacuation procedures – 7.2 As this event is located in a venue on the Esplanade in the evening when

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	other businesses will be closed there should be no impact on infrastructure
Has the event organiser/venue operator considered the impact and management inside the premises at particular pinch points (for example queue management and crowding at bar, food stand, merchandise areas etc.)?	Queue management is covered in the EMP at 6.9 but also see, for example, procedures around staff radio links for communication across the event to deal with any pinch points which may arise at 7.6.
Will attendees be primarily local, or will there be additional risk factors created by attracting a national or international audience for the event?	Primarily Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire areas – 95%
Has the event organiser/venue operator successfully run their event in line with relevant COVID-19 Scottish Government sectoral guidance previously? This could be within the local authority area or successful events in other local authority areas.	There is a specific Covid risk assessment in the EMP at Part 8. This was completed by Dave Ross who is a leading expert in this area having run the event safety for, amongst others –  • Glasgow City Council Euros Football Fanzone  • TRSMT (50,000 people across 3 days)  • Playground Festival (18,000 people across 2 days)
	Aberdeen City Council Environmental Health have reviewed the risk assessment, which has been substantially updated and are satisfied with the controls.
Through conversations with the event organiser/venue operator and a review of their Risk Assessment, local authorities will need to satisfy themselves that the event organiser/venue operator has put in place reasonable mitigations to:	Environmental Health advised that they were satisfied. There is a risk assessment and event plan in place which details satisfactory controls regarding these points.

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- ensure cleanliness in all areas with a focus on touch points and key areas and drawing up cleaning schedules in advance
- robustly log customer data for the purposes of NHS Test and Protect
- ensure they communicate how customers can travel safely to venues in advance of the event, according to the safer travel guidance