

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	6 March 2013
DIRECTOR	Gordon McIntosh
TITLE OF REPORT	Relaxation of drinking in public Bye-law for BP Big Screens 2013
REPORT NUMBER:	EPI/12/269

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of the report is to seek permission to suspend the operation of the Aberdeen City Council Drinking in Public Places Byelaw 2009 to permit the responsible consumption of alcohol within the boundaries of the main grass area of Duthie Park for the following event planned for this summer:

BP Summer Big Screens 2013

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. Members are asked to instruct the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to undertake the processes necessary to enact the suspension of the byelaw, currently in operation, of the existing Aberdeen City Council Drinking in Public Places Byelaw 2009 within the boundaries of the Duthie Park for the following event :

BP Summer Big Screens 2013

Proposed date - Thursday 18 July "Tosca", to be confirmed by BP

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are advertising costs associated with the publicising of the temporary suspension. Two notices will need to be published in the local press with a notice advising of the intention to temporarily suspend the byelaw and (assuming the Scottish Ministers confirm the temporary suspension), a second notice advising of the confirmation of the temporary suspension.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Health and Safety

Relevant health and safety audits and associated risk assessments will be carried out prior to the staging of this event.

Risk Management

Appropriate control measures will be put in place. Audience members will be asked to drink in a responsible manner and event stewards from an approved Security Industry Authority (SIA) contractor will be in attendance.

Environmental

Efforts will be made to recycle the waste accumulated at this event.

Economic

This event creates a positive attitude in the city, assisting with the promotion of the city as a vibrant place in which to invest, live and visit.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

The BP Summer Big Screens will once again return to Aberdeen in summer of this year. The proposed date is Thursday 18 July 2013, awaiting confirmation from BP and it is a welcome return to the city for the opera "Tosca". The live transmission of the opera will be relayed direct to Aberdeen from the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London. The event is sponsored by BP, supported by Aberdeen City Council and will be displayed on a 40 x 40 foot screen complete with sound. The event is free to all and is expected to attract around 3000 people of all ages and abilities.

This will be the 8th year this has taken place in Aberdeen and each year, the success of the event has grown alongside its popularity. Limited catering will be provided and although alcohol will not be on sale, it is normal that members of the public to bring a picnic with them which may include alcohol. Event stewards, medical and welfare and a toilet service will be provided alongside passing attention from Grampian Police.

In all previous years, this event has passed with no noted incidents or accidents reported in relation to alcohol.

The BP Summer Big Screens concept is :

1. to introduce opera in relaxed surroundings to new audiences
2. give people an opportunity to see the world's best
3. to provide free world class entertainment to families who might otherwise not be able to purchase tickets

The existing Aberdeen City Council Drinking in Public Places Byelaw 2009 will require to be suspended to allow the consumption of alcohol at this event. This will involve the creation of a new byelaw which enacts a temporary suspension of the existing byelaw. The new byelaw must be advertised to allow members of the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed suspension. The new byelaw will also require the approval of the Scottish Government.

6. IMPACT

Corporate
Aberdeen – the Smarter City

- We will promote Aberdeen as a great place to live, bring up a family, do business and visit.

Smarter Living (Quality of Life)

- We aspire to be recognised as a City of Culture, a place of excellence for culture and arts by promoting Aberdeen as a cultural centre hosting high quality diverse cultural events for the whole community and beyond.

Smarter Economy (Competitiveness)

- We will work with partners to promote the city as a place to invest, live, work and export from.

Community Plan

- Work with other organisations, agencies and groups, including Visit Scotland and Visit Aberdeen, to encourage tourism and the provision of facilities for tourists.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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