

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
(By email)

Our Ref: MGLA250118-1815

18 April 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the GLA received on 25 January 2018. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am sorry for the late response.

You requested:

Please find below the relevant information I wish to find out about Form 696:

Looking for the evidence-led thought process behind the removal of Form 696 (and any information relevant to this request).

Why was the Form removed?

Why was it removed in 2017 despite previous criticism?

In addition, curious to what the 'voluntary partnership approach' that is replacing the former Form 696 consists of: what are the licensing requirements?

How voluntary the approach is (are there any cases where the approach is not voluntary?)

Who is involved

in the 'partnership'?

What are the aims/goals of the new approach?

When was/is it to be implemented?

Who will be subject to the new approach (i.e. promoters, artists) and in what manner?

As discussions are ongoing, we are unable to give you definitive answer to all of your questions at this stage. However, please find attached the recorded information that we located that helps to explain the thought process behind the removal of Form 696.

We have made some redactions to withhold names from the disclosed information which constitutes third-party personal data which is exempt from release under the provision of section 40(2) of the FoI Act. This provides that personal data (as defined under the Data Protection Act 1998) can be withheld from disclosure in to the public domain where that disclosure would be contrary to one of the Data Protection Principles under that Act. In this case, disclosure would be in breach of the first principle and constitute unfair processing of that data.

Form 696 was discussed at a meeting of the London Music Board, which are available online at https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/draft_minutes_londonmusicboard_19sept2017_v3_names_removed.pdf

You can also see some basic information [here](#) and a copy of the related press release [here](#).

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA250118-1815.

Yours sincerely



Information Governance Officer

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>

696 Review Terms of Reference:

Purpose:

To review the current 696 review process, including its impact on promoted events in the night time economy. To consider any negative impact (whether real or perceived) on specific premises and community groups, and make recommendations for the 696 risk assessment process, to mitigate/remove any negative impact, to consider all options including disposal of the service.

Scope:

1. Identify Key stakeholders and undertake consultation – to include:
 - London Promoters Forum
 - Licensed premises – focus on managers of London’s large music venues
 - IAGs
 - Riverboat related licensed vessels
 - Local Authorities
 - Security Industry Authority (SIA)
 - London Music Board
 - Community groups
2. Complete a full impact assessment, as part of the Equality Impact Assessment
3. Recommend an appropriate operating model (or disposal if deemed appropriate), taking into account feedback from stakeholder consultation, alongside any potential impact on MPS resources
4. Report to be completed, to be public, setting out consultation process, feedback, and final decision with full rationale.

Process:

Consultation to be completed by late Autumn, and will be in the form of both questionnaire feedback, followed by a series of meetings/forums - to include the following:

- Organise promoters forum, to include large music venue management – send out questionnaires in advance – obtain feedback, send out updates and prepare a further forum meeting
- Attend the London Licensing Managers Forum, comprising the licensing managers of London's 32 boroughs – introduce consultation and start process
- Identify appropriate IAGs, which may include setting up a specific group
- Marine Policing Unit to complete local consultation process for riverboat promoted events
- Attend the SIA PaS meeting, introduce consultation and start process
- All identified key stakeholders to be fully consulted, plus any further stakeholders/partners/community groups identified throughout the process
- Process to be regularly reviewed to ensure consultation remains on track, identify any gaps, and advice provided by the Strategic, Inclusion and Diversity Unit.
- Recommendations to be implemented – subject to approval of any required resources - in early 2018

Governance and oversight:

- Review to be led by the Central Licensing Team, with assistance from Strategic, Inclusion and Diversity Unit in an advisory capacity, and governance provided by CPIC Senior Leadership.
- Final report and recommendations to be approved by MoPAC and the Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries prior to publication.

Ruth Phillips

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 November 2017 10:46
To: Amy Lamé
Cc: Sophie Linden; Justine Simons; [REDACTED]; MOPAC Correspondence; [REDACTED]@met.pnn.police.uk; [REDACTED]@met.pnn.police.uk; [REDACTED]@met.pnn.police.uk; [REDACTED]@met.pnn.police.uk; [REDACTED]@met.pnn.police.uk; [REDACTED]@met.pnn.police.uk
Subject: MPS Review of Form 696
Attachments: Response to Amy Lane on F696 101117.pdf

Dear Amy,



Please find attached a letter in relation to Form 696.

I look forward to speaking with you in due course.

Kind Regards,

Roy



Roy Smith
Superintendent
Metropolitan Police Service
Continuous Policing Improvement Command (CPIC)
p: 0207 [REDACTED] m: [REDACTED]
a: 3rd Floor, New Scotland Yard, Victoria Embankment, SW1A 2JL
w: www.met.police.uk e: [REDACTED]
 

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www.met.police.uk
Your ref:
Our ref: RS/CPIC/F696AL
10th November 2017

OFFICIAL

Dear Amy,

I am writing to update you on the MPS review of the "Form 696" risk assessment for promoted music events following the London Music Board meeting on the 19th September 2017 where we agreed to conduct a full review and consultation.

Since that meeting our central licensing team have spoken to an extensive range of stakeholders including the London local authority licensing managers, musicians union, London promoter's forum, the Institute of Licensing and various venue owners.

The Form 696 was originally introduced in 2005 in response to a number of shootings at promoted club nights across London and there is no doubt that over the last decade a number of serious incidents have been prevented through the effective exchange of information, advice and intelligence between the MPS, promoters and venue managers as part of this process.

However, we also recognise the recent concerns raised by members of the London music industry and in particular the perception that events associated with some genres of music were disproportionately affected by this process.

It is clear that over recent years the context in which music events are happening across London has changed. Thankfully, we have seen a reduction in serious incidents at promoted music events, particularly those involving firearms. We have also been working in close partnership with the music industry and others to raise standards of safety in venues and at events.

We are grateful for the honest, frank and open debate which you have facilitated with members of the music industry and it is quite right that, as with any process, it is subject to regular reviews to ensure it remains fit for purpose and proportionate to the risk.

Therefore we have made the decision to remove the Form 696 from use in London and instead develop a voluntary new partnership approach to information sharing which is available to venues and promoters across London. This will be based on the

highly effective crime reduction partnership model and puts the emphasis on information sharing at a local level on a voluntary basis and only where some form of enhanced risk has already been identified.

This new approach will see us move away from a transactional risk assessment process to one which does not simply provide an indication of risk but focusses on the sharing of best practice and continuing to professionalise industry standards.

We will be working with colleagues from local authorities to understand the implication of this decision on venues which have the use of Form 696 as a condition on their premises licence as well as the impact on existing local licensing policies.

It is clear that developing a new process will require continued engagement, consultation and discussion with the wider industry and we look forward to working with you and your team to shape how this develops for the future and also agree our joint approach to communicating this publicly.

We look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure that the night time economy in London remains safe for all.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roy Smith', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Roy Smith
Superintendent

CC Martin Hewitt, Assistant Commissioner
 Justine Simons OBE, Deputy Mayor for Culture
 Sophie Linden, Deputy Mayor for Police & Crime