FAQs- Events in Parks Policy

| Question | Response |
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| What is the process for applying to hold an event in a park, and who is responsible for handling applications? Who provides advice on event applications, and what role do contractors like Enable play? | Applications to hold events in parks are managed by Enable, as part of their contract with the council. Enable receives and assesses applications based on the current Events in Parks Policy (agreed in 2014), which is included alongside the draft policy in the consultation documents. To apply for an event, visit the Enable website for full details and application guidance. As part of the assessment process, Enable consults with various stakeholders, including the council's Culture and Leisure team and the Communications service. If an event involves licensable activities (such as alcohol sales or live music), a separate licence must be obtained. These licence applications are handled by the council and assessed according to legal requirements. Certain events may also be reviewed by the multi-agency Safety Advisory Group, which provides specialist advice. More information on this can be found on the council's website. |
| Why do you need an events policy? Is it not enough to rely on the licensing process? | Not all events require a licence or a temporary event notice (also known as a TEN). This government guidance gives an overview of what does and doesn't need licences. Whether a licence is needed is determined by a combination of what the |

event includes, whether alcohol is sold/provided, and how big the event is. This means that some events do not need a licence. Licensing applications and temporary event notices are assessed against the licensing objectives. Licensing is a statutory process carried out by the council as licensing authority. There is more information about the licensing objectives on the council's website.

The events policy sets parameters for how parks, commons, and open spaces can be used for events. This is separate from the statutory licensing process. The policy guides the decision-making on requests for booking a park.

Booking a park under the policy does not waive the requirement for the organiser booking the park to go through the licensing process - if their event requires a licence or temporary event notice.

The events policy also covers some of the same areas as the licensing objectives to ensure that events that do not need a licence are also subject to restrictions in these areas (for example noise best practice).

The events policy also covers topics outside the licensing objectives which apply to all events taking place regardless of whether they require a licence or not. This includes social value, protecting the environment, and ticket offers. Which parks, commons and open spaces does the draft policy apply to?

The published draft policy applies to all council parks, commons, and open spaces in Wandsworth, excluding Battersea Park and Clapham Common. There is a separate policy for Battersea Park, which we will review in the future. The borough boundary between Lambeth and Wandsworth runs through Clapham Common but the common is managed by Lambeth council.