

 

**Guidance on Noise Control for Open Air Events**

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<https://www.bathnes.gov.uk>

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**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Bath and North East Somerset Council supports entertainment and cultural events within the community that include music. However, the Council is also keen to ensure that an appropriate balance is achieved between the organisers’ objectives, an attendee’s enjoyment of such events and the interests of the community at large, who may be affected by such events.

This document is designed to clearly provide guidance to event organisers, noise consultant, residents and interested parties on the Council’s approach in respect of controlling noise from open air events.

The approach is essentially one based on active engagement with the Council’s Environmental Protection Team at least 8 weeks prior to the event date, to ensure that the potential for noise disturbance is minimised.

The document also outlines the relevant legal framework associated with such events as well as offering some guidance on the control of noise.

The Council hopes that by following this code of practice - as well as complying with relevant legislation - the right balance can be achieved between the needs of the event organiser and the musicians who are performing, and the right of the local community not to be unduly disturbed by noise.

The guidance applies to all event organisers no matter the size of the event, including events operated by Bath & North East Somerset Council.

## 2.0 PURPOSE OF THE GUIDANCE

This guidance is aimed at: relevant parties who are involved in the planning or hosting of outdoor events in Bath and North East Somerset, which have the potential for noise.

* + - The Applicant
    - Open Air event organisers and promoters;
    - Owners of land where open-air events may take place;
    - Acoustic consultants;
    - The Public and
    - Elected Members

These events may include music concerts, sporting events, discos in temporary structures, fairgrounds, etc. They could range in size from celebrations at a local pub for a special event up to a major music concert.

Bath & North East Somerset Council will consider the guidance and the information submitted by the applicant when considering the approval of open air events. We would strongly recommend that the applicant has regard to this guidance document.

This document does not have regard to the risk of hearing to those working at an event or the audience attending nor does it consider the potential impact of music generated vibration on either temporary or permanent structures.

## PRINCIPLES OF THE GUIDANCE

Bath & North East Somerset Council must be notified when an open air event provides either live and/or recorded music.

Applicants are required to complete and submitted a Noise Event Application Form to the Council’s Environmental Protection Team at least 8 weeks prior to the event date.

[Download the Noise Event Application Form](https://bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Noise%20Event%20Application%20Form.docx)

If using appointing an acoustics consultant. You should ensure they are a member of Association of Noise Consultants ([www.association-of-noise-consultants.co.uk](http://www.association-of-noise-consultants.co.uk/)) or Institute of Acoustics ([www.ioa.org.uk](http://www.ioa.org.uk/))

Upon receiving the Noise Event Application Form and associated information, the Council will review the information and based on the information will assess the likelihood of noise disturbance to the local community. This will form part of the event site Noise Management Plan.

Failure to submit adequate information within the Noise Event Application Form to control noise disturbance from all sources associated with the event, may be considered grounds for the Environmental Protection Team to recommend refusal to the Events Team.

If Bath & North East Somerset Council believes that the event has the potential to cause an undue noise disturbance to the local community the applicant, event organiser and/or the Acoustic Consultant will liaise with the Council’s Environmental Protection Team to resolve any noise problems. If the matters can’t be resolved, the Environmental Protection Team will make a recommendation of refusal to the Events Team.

However, there may be instances where more formal action is required, in accordance with the Council’s Enforcement Policy.

Should the Council be satisfied that the proposed event has the potential to cause unreasonable disturbance, and that the Organiser has not mitigated this potential, the Environmental Protection Team may take formal enforcement action, including the service of an Abatement Notice under the provisions of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

If the terms of an Abatement Notice are not complied with, and evidence to substantiate this is obtained, then the organiser of the event may be prosecuted for the offence of failing to comply with the notice.

Where an event organiser disregards the recommendations and guidance contained within this document or from an authorised officer from the Council, then any future events undertaken by the same the Applicant or Event organiser will attract a higher degree of scrutiny, and greater emphasis will be placed on dealing with them on a formal basis from the outset.

This guidance will normally be applied to all open-air events that have the potential to cause noise nuisance, other than in exceptional or unusual circumstance, in which case, any departure from this guidance will only be as approved by an authorised officer of Bath & North East Somerset Council.

## 4.0 RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE

**Environmental Protection Act 1990**

Each year, Bath and North East Somerset Council receive a number of complaints about noise from open air events. The Council aims to work with all parties to resolve any noise problems that may arise, however there may be occasions when formal action is necessary to protect the interests of residents.

Where it is established that noise from an event is causing, or is likely to cause, a statutory nuisance under Part III of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, this legislation requires the Council to serve an Abatement Notice, requiring that the nuisance is abated. It is a criminal offence not to comply with such a notice and may result in prosecution with a maximum penalty on conviction of an **unlimited fine (Level 5) with a further fine of an amount equal to one-tenth of that level for each day on which the offence continues after the conviction. A person who commits an offence on Industrial, trade or business premises shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £40,000.** It is therefore important that effective noise control procedures are implemented.

The Council’s Enforcement Policy states that enforcement notices may be served where it is considered that a more informal approach would be ineffective. It also allows for enforcement notices to be served without prior discussion with the prospective recipient in cases where immediate action is required in the interest of environmental protection.

## Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts

This national Code of Practice was issued by the Noise Council in 1995. The code is currently under a process of review. It remains the most relevant guidance on the control of noise from outdoor concerts. An updated version of the Code may be issued in the future and at this point the Council will consider the revised and amended Code when assessing open air event applications.

The Environmental Protection Team will have regard to this Code when considering noise event applications.

The Code of Practice recommends the sound levels that should be achieved at noise sensitive premises for events that take place between the hours of 09:00 hrs and 23:00 hrs. The recommended sound levels are dependent upon the nature of the area and the number of events held in a year. It should be noted that compliance with the Code of Practice does not, of itself, confer immunity from legal obligations. If the event is to continue after 23:00 hrs it should be inaudible at the nearest noise sensitive premises.

The table overleaf indicates the maximum Music Noise Levels (MNL) recommended by the code of practice for functions that do not go beyond 23:00 hours at 1 metre from the façade of any noise sensitive property.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Concert days per calendar year, at the same venue** | **Venue Category** | **Guideline** |
| 1 to 3 | Urban Stadia or Arenas | The MNL expressed as an LAeq should not exceed 75dB(A) over a 15-minute period. |
| 1 to 3 | Other Urban and Rural Venues | The MNL expressed as an LAeq should not exceed 65dB(A) over a 15-minute period |
| 4 to 12 | All Venues | The MNL expressed as an LAeq should not exceed the background noise level by more than 15dB(A) over a 15-minute period. |

The Environmental Protection Team reserves the right to specify its own noise levels. This will be based on an individual case by case basis and consider the circumstances surrounding the event and the measures to in place to control noise disturbance to the local community.

## Licensing Act 2003

Any premises where regulated entertainment or the sale or supply of alcohol takes place must either have a Premises Licence (LAPRE), Club Premises Certificate (LAPREC) or must be the subject of a Temporary Event Notice (TEN). If such activities take place without the benefit of these, then an offence may be committed, and the Licensing Team will investigate the situation.

If the event site already holds a Premise Licence or Club Premises Certificate, then any proposed activities will be restricted to the conditions of the Premises Licence or Club Premises Certificate.  It is the responsibility of the Licensing Authority to ensure conditions are being adhered too.

If the event does not hold a Premise Licence or Club Premises Certificate, you will need to apply for a TEN, where the number of the members of the public in attendance is less than 500. If over 500 members of public including staff and other person involved in the event are present, then a Premises Licence should be applied for. For legal reasons, a Premises Licence can take an average of six to eight weeks before it is granted even where all the details of the application have been discussed and agreed before the application is submitted.

The Environmental Protection Team would strongly advice the Organiser to ensure a Premises Licence or a Club Premises Certificate is in place before submitting the Noise Event application Form (Appendix 1).

For further information, please see the Council’s website at [www.bathnes.gov.uk/licensing](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/licensing%20) or contact the Council’s Licensing Team at [licencing@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:licencing@bathnes.gov.uk) or via the switchboard on 01225 477 7000.

## EVENT GUIDANCE

**5.1 Event Information**

The Environmental Protection Team requires relevant information about your open-air event as detailed in Appendix 1.

Organisers will need to demonstrate that the location of all external stages and marquees where music is to be played has been planned so as to minimise their impact on the noise sensitive premises identified.

Organisers will need to demonstrate that the programme of events for stages and marquees where music is to be played has been planned so as to minimise the impact on the noise sensitive premises identified.

Any measures to mitigate the noise levels from the music sources must also be considered, for example the use of delay or circuit speakers, and compressors or limiters on the sound system.

## Noise Conditions

Based on the Event Information, the Responsible Authority for Environmental Health (Environmental Protection) may seek to apply conditions controlling the hours and noise levels at the event through the licensing regime. Such conditions may include, but not limited to the following:

* + - * All amplified music in an outside marquee or in the open air shall finish no later than (\*) hours.
      * Rehearsals and sound checks are permitted only between the following hours: (\*) hours to (\*) hours.
      * Music from the concert or event is permitted only between the following hours: (\*) hours to (\*) hours.
      * Music from other sources (e.g. food traders, fairground rides) is permitted only between the following hours: (\*) hours to (\*) hours.
      * The control limits set at the mixer position shall be adequate to ensure that the Music Noise Level shall not at any noise sensitive premises exceed [(\*)dB(A) over a fifteen minute period / the background noise level by 15dB(A) over a fifteen minute period] throughout the duration of the concert or event.
      * The control limits set at the mixer position shall be adequate to ensure that the Music Noise Level shall not at any noise sensitive premises exceed [(\*)dB(A) over a

fifteen minute period / the background noise level by 15dB(A) over a fifteen minute period] throughout the duration of the concert or event.

* The control limits set at the mixer position shall be adequate to ensure that the Music Noise Level shall not at any noise sensitive premises exceed [(\*)dB(A) over a fifteen minute period / the background noise level by 15dB(A) over a fifteen minute period] throughout the duration of any rehearsal or sound check for the concert or event.
* The control limits set at the mixer position shall be adequate to ensure that the Music Noise Level shall not at any noise sensitive premises exceed [(\*)dB over a fifteen minute period / the background noise level by (\*)dB over a fifteen minute period in the 63Hz and 125Hz octave frequency bands] throughout the duration of the concert or event.
* The control limits set at the mixer position shall be adequate to ensure that the Music Noise Level shall not at any noise sensitive premises exceed [(\*)dB over a fifteen minute period / the background noise level by (\*)dB over a fifteen minute period in the 63Hz and 125Hz octave frequency bands] throughout the duration of any rehearsal or sound check for the concert or event.
* The Event Organiser shall have full control over the sound amplification equipment and the volume shall be adjusted according to the requirements of the Responsible Authority for Environmental Health (Environmental Protection).
* The Event Organiser shall ensure that all persons (including individual sound engineers) involved with the sound system are informed of the sound control limits and that any instructions from the Responsible Authority for Environmental Health (Environmental Protection) regarding noise levels are complied with.
* Unrestricted access to the front of house position and backstage areas shall be allowed at all times to the Responsible Authority for Environmental Health (Environmental Protection) for the purpose of sound level measurements, communications with the nominated noise consultant / sound engineer and monitoring licence conditions.
* All complaints about noise received by the site office / event organiser shall be logged, and shall be notified to the Responsible Authority for Environmental Health (Environmental Protection) within [\*] minutes of the complaint being received.
* The Event Organiser shall effect full control over traders or other organisations on site where there is amplified music being played. At the request of the Responsible Authority for Environmental Health (Environmental Protection) the Event Organiser shall arrange for the volume to be reduced or the playing to cease, or if necessary the equipment to be confiscated.

## PREPARATIONS BEFORE THE EVENT

**6.1 Event Location**

When deciding the location for your event, you need to consider the potential impact

that noise from the event may have on local residents. Is the proposed site suitable? If it is surrounded by residential properties, the site may not be appropriate or very tight controls on noise may be required.

You will need to consider all of the potential noise sources including, music, people,

fairground rides, loudspeakers, public address systems, generators, fireworks etc. If there are residents in close proximity to the site, you will need to take steps to reduce the impact that your event will have on them.

For medium to large events, an acoustic consultant should carry out a background noise survey. Using noise modelling the acoustic consultant should submit a noise contour map as part of the noise management plan, to show the maximum permissible noise levels to be set at the mixer positions.

## 6.2 Performance Areas

Once the site is decided upon, you need to consider the most appropriate position on the site for the stage and consider the direction of the speakers. There will be a higher sound output in the forward direction of the speakers and lower sound output from the rear, although output from the rear of the speakers will still be significant. Loudspeakers should be facing away from noise sensitive premises.

## Bands and Live Music

The amplification of most bands consists of amplifiers and speakers for the instruments and vocalists. The sound is mixed and balanced by a Sound Engineer at a sound desk prior to the performance. The use of noise limiters/compressors are advised for the main stage as this sets a maximum volume for the music. It is also important to set maximum levels for the low frequency levels (bass) as these cause the most disturbance to local residents. Seek advice from the sound engineer you employ.

In order that the performers can be aware of the sound around them, a "backline" of speakers is positioned on stage. This is not controlled by the sound desk and it is essential, therefore, that the Sound Engineer is made fully aware of the necessary restrictions on sound levels and so is in a position to set up the backline to enable full control to be exercised during the performance. Organisers should satisfy themselves that the levels are set accordingly. This is especially important, since when the performance is taking place the sound desk will be in control of only about 15-20% of the total volume of sound produced.

One of the most frequently encountered problems is that an unnecessarily large amount of sound equipment is provided, which makes effective control very difficult. The output of the sound system(s) should be suitable for the size of the event, and as a general rule it should be calculated on the basis of 1KW per 100 people in the audience expected.

It is important that bands booked to appear should be aware of the need to be sensitive to potential noise problems and should accept restrictions that may be

imposed. In some cases, verbal assurances have been proven quite inadequate, and organisers are strongly advised to include suitable clauses in contracts so as to ensure that they retain effective control over sound levels.

An advantage of using a single production company to run a particular stage is that the sound engineer may be the same for all bands and this makes liaison much more straightforward.

Where more than one entertainment venue is proposed they should be spread throughout the premises or site. Simultaneous performances should be held at different places so as to minimise the likelihood of large crowds being drawn to one place. This will also avoid music from one sound system interfering with another and noise levels being increased as a result. There should be a conscious effort to plan quieter entertainment at the end of the concert or event. Sensitive sites should be reserved for non-amplified music and only used early in the programme.

It is always difficult to keep the programme running to schedule. Bands take longer than expected to set up or fail to arrive on time and slippage frequently takes place. Organisers should make sure that sufficient change over time is allowed between bands.

## Sound Systems

Employ a sound system whenever possible that uses circuit speakers (i.e., a range of relatively low powered speakers sited around the premises or site marquee rather than one with a bank of speakers on either side of the stage to force sound out over the whole audience). Ensure that the sound engineer strictly controls the low frequency levels of the music, as this causes the most disturbance to local residents.

Ensure, when booking a sound engineer, that they fully understand the need to work within the restrictions imposed and are prepared to accept direction from the Premises Licence Holder, Event Organiser, or Responsible Authority regarding sound levels. You are recommended to draw up a suitable contract giving clear and detailed information about your expectations regarding the management of acceptable sound levels based on this code of practice.

## Local Geography and Topography

Local geography and topography can provide both benefits and problems.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Feature** | **Comment** |
| Wind | Noise can be carried by the prevailing wind towards noise receptors. If the prevailing wind is away from the audience to the performers, then the audience will have difficulty hearing the performers and the temptation is to turn up the volume. Noise receptors downwind will suffer as a result. |
| Water | Noise carries well across stretches of water such as rivers or lakes and this can cause noise problems. |
| Hills | Can provide useful noise barriers. |
| Trees | These do not provide an effective noise barrier so do not rely on them. |
| Nearby buildings | Noise may be reflected off nearby buildings and this may direct the sound in unexpected directions. |

## Loudspeaker Location

Modern day loudspeakers are normally able to direct sound at a target area, i.e. the audience. You should ensure that loudspeakers are focused on the area where the audience will be, in order to reduce the over-spill into the surrounding area. You need to consider the area where the audience will be located and ensure that your sound engineers set up the music system accordingly.

## Type of Event

You should consider the type of performers that you are going to have. Some acts will result in higher sound levels than others, for example, solo singers are likely to be quieter than bands. Some acts may have higher levels of low frequency noise. Low frequency noise has more energy than high frequency noise and will travel further and penetrate buildings. Low frequency noise can result in increased disturbance to local residents and may require additional control measures.

## Council Owned Sites

If the proposed event site is on land owned by the Council, there may be terms and conditions of the land hire agreement which you will need to comply with. You should contact the Council’s Events Office on 01225 395056 or email the Events Team on [Event@BATHNES.GOV.UK](mailto:Event@BATHNES.GOV.UK) for further information on hiring Council owned open-air sites.

## Cumulative Event Days

If your event, or the total number of events held at the venue, exceeds three days in any year then the maximum noise level recommended by the Code of Practice is reduced– see section 4. This is regardless of whether these events were organised by you or someone else.

## Public Relations

## Bath & North East Somerset Council are recommending that letters and social media etc is used by the event organisers to notify the community both businesses and residents, 2 weeks before the event.

## The content of the letter and letter dropped street addresses should be approved by Bath & North East Somerset Council, Environmental Protection Team. The letter must include details about the event and specific complaint procedures (email and hotline) that will be place during the event.

## Bath and North East Somerset, with will post details of event organisers’ complaint hotline on our website. This page can be found at: <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/report-noise-nuisance>

## Increasing public relations around an event, will enable businesses and resident to make alternative arrangements if they feel they will be impacted by the event or concerns for their welfare of their pets.

## If you as a business or resident are being affected by noise, in the first incident, we recommend making contact with the event organiser during the event, using the complaint hotline contact details provided. This is because responsibility to ensure compliance with relevant licensing requirements rests with the event organizer.

## You may also report noise disturbance to the Council via our website (<https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/report-noise-nuisance> ), but this may not be picked up until the next working day.

## The event organiser will be asked to provide a post-event report detailing their response to complaints received within 7 working days to Bath & North East Somerset Council. This information will be used in our debrief discussing with the event organiser. Any non-compliance may result in us objecting to any future licence application for a similar event or seeking a review of an existing licence.

## Other Permissions and Liaison

You may need specific consents or licences before the function can go ahead and this may include Planning Permission and/or a Premises Licence under the Licensing Act 2003. It is essential that these are obtained before any booking of the event venue is finalised or advance publicity undertaken or tickets sold.

You may need to contact other authorities or other council departments to ensure that they do not have any additional requirements. You should not assume because you have contacted the Environmental Protection Team of Bath and North East Somerset Council that any details of the event have been passed on to any other of the council departments or local authorities. As the event organiser it is your responsibility to contact and liaise with other relevant local authorities and/or council departments.

Below is a list of website contact details that you may find it useful.

* + South Gloucestershire Council – **www.southglos.gov.uk**
  + Bristol City Council - **www.bristol.gov.uk**
  + Wiltshire Council – **www.wiltshire.gov.uk**
  + Ambulance Service - [**www.gwas.nhs.uk**](http://www.gwas.nhs.uk/)
  + Avon and Somerset Police - [**www.avonandsomerset.police.uk**](http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/)
  + Avon Fire and Rescue - [**www.avonfire.gov.uk**](http://www.avonfire.gov.uk/)

Bath & North East Somerset Council internal teams:

* + Food Safety - [**www.bathnes.gov.uk/healthandsocial/foodsafety**](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/healthandsocial/foodsafety)
  + Health and Safety at Work - [**www.bathnes.gov.uk/business/healthandsafety**](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/business/healthandsafety)
  + Licensing - [**www.bathnes.gov.uk/business/LicencesStreetTrading**](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/business/LicencesStreetTrading)

## Planning - [www.bathnes.gov.uk/environmentandplanning/planning](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/environmentandplanning/planning)

## Events -www.bathnes.gov.uk/book-outdoor-event

## MEASURING NOISE

**7.1 Noise Monitoring**

Officers from the Responsible Authority for Environmental Health (Environmental Protection) may monitor such events. They should receive co-operation from the Premises Licence Holder or Organisers in charge of the entertainment when carrying out monitoring inspections. They may monitor the event to ensure that no unreasonable disturbance is being caused, no statutory nuisance is being created and the conditions on the Premises Licence are being complied with.

A Premise Licence Holder or a member of the organisers or a designated person shall be responsible for monitoring the noise level/and any noise complaints received regarding the event. The noise level should be monitored

Throughout the event any advice/or instruction given by the Environmental Health Officer/ authorised officer shall be complied with.

An inspection will normally be made before the start of the concert or event to check on its general organisation and layout, with further inspections carried out during the course of the event. Officer(s) may request a reduction in sound levels if they are satisfied that it is necessary for compliance with the noise conditions set for preventing unreasonable disturbance. The propagation of sound is frequently complex and may be affected by atmospheric conditions. There are occasions when sound levels (especially low frequency music) appear to be relatively low close to the source but are still intrusive some considerable distance away.

Organisers should not rely solely on the Environmental Health Officers to advise them of noise problems. Wherever possible the organisers should monitor noise levels at noise sensitive premises around the premises or site to assess whether noise is likely to be disturbing.

To be able to carry out your own noise monitoring using measurements, you need to be competent in using a sound level meter. These can be complex and the more sophisticated instruments will require training before they can be used correctly. Some basic meters can be purchased cheaply from high street electronics stores, however these are not recommended for monitoring noise from outdoor events. The meter used must be capable of applying an A weighting and be capable of automatically calculating LAeq.

“A weighting” allows a sound level meter to measure noise in a way that approximates to how a human ear hears noise.

LAeq is a way of measuring noise over a period of time to produce a single measurement that approximates to the average of all the noise levels occurring during that time period.

If you do carry out your own monitoring using a sound level meter, you will need to measure the following two parameters during the event to establish whether you are

complying with the recommendations included in the Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts:

* + - * LAeq, 15 mins
      * LAeq, 1 min

It is also recommended that you monitor frequency levels in octave bands, particularly the 63 and 125 Hertz octave bands.

If you are in doubt as to your or your staff’s capability to use a sound level meter, and noise measurements form a critical part of your control measures, then you will need to employ a noise consultant.

Depending on the size of the event, it may be necessary to take noise measurements, however, you will still need to regularly monitor the event by listening to the noise and noting a description of what can be heard at points around the boundary of your premises. For more complete definitions of noise terms you should consult British Standard 7445.

## Acoustic Consultants

It is expected that, for medium and large events, a suitably qualified acoustic consultant will be employed to help to plan the event and to monitor noise levels throughout the event.

The Institute of Acoustics is the professional body for acoustic consultants and there is a list of registered consultants on their website at [www.ioa.org.uk](http://www.ioa.org.uk/)

You may also wish to look at the website of the Association of Noise Consultants:

[www.association-of-noise-consultants.co.uk](http://www.association-of-noise-consultants.co.uk/).

It is recommended that you discuss who you propose appointing with Bath and North East Somerset Council, (in terms of the relevance of their experience and qualifications), before placing the contract.

## DURING AND AFTER THE EVENT

**8.1 Setting up**

A sound propagation test should be carried out on the day of the event, after 10:00 hours, to ensure that the sound levels at the agreed monitoring positions are as expected, taking into account the weather conditions on the day. If the agreed sound levels at the sound desk need to be adjusted this should be done, the levels noted and preferably the controls taped over to prevent any further adjustment.

## During the event

It is expected that the event organiser will be responsible for monitoring noise levels and ensuring that they comply with any agreed noise conditions. However, where complaints have been received, or there is reason to suspect that licence conditions may not be complied with, the Council may also carry out monitoring of events.

Sound levels should be monitored from the agreed monitoring positions throughout the event and a record kept of the monitoring results. Action should be taken to reduce noise levels where the agreed noise levels are exceeded, and a record kept of the reason for the breach and the action taken to resolve the problem.

The complaint hotline should be manned at all times during the event, from before the sound propagation test and until all members of the public have left the premises. Any complaints should be passed on to the responsible person as appointed by the event organiser. Action should be taken to investigate all complaints and, where appropriate, remedial action taken.

Please remember that noise levels set during the sound propagation test may vary at noise sensitive premises and may need to be reduced in the light of experience. Please remember that whilst setting maximum levels is recommended, sound levels should not be run at these levels if lower noise levels are sufficient for the purposes of the event.

## After the Event / Debrief

The results of the noise monitoring should be sent to the Council along with details of any complaints received and the action taken to resolve them within 7 working days. Within 28 days from the event a debrief meeting will be held with relevant parties to review how the event went. If you have plans to run the event again, you should keep a checklist of what went well and what could be improved next time to aid discussion.

## CONCLUSION

Remember that you are running an event has the potential to cause serious noise pollution and so have a corresponding professional duty of care.

However, if you:

* + - choose a suitable location;
    - plan the event with noise control in mind;
    - follow all relevant codes of practice;
    - run the event so as to minimise the generation and spread of noise;
    - respond to complaints appropriately;
    - do not cause a statutory noise nuisance;
    - comply with other relevant legislative requirements;
    - then the Council believes that the right balance can be achieved between the organiser’s objectives, the attendee’s enjoyment and the rights of the local community not to be unduly disturbed by noise.
    - We welcome your feedback on this document. Please direct your views to [environmental\_protection@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:environmental_protection@bathnes.gov.uk)

## 10.0 Appendix One – Noise Event Application Form

We need you to supply your event planning information a **minimum of 8 weeks** in advance of the event date, so that any potential for noise nuisance arising from the event can be carefully managed from the outset.

Please fill in the Noise Event Application Form (online) or please print and return your completed form with relevant information to the Environmental Protection Team.

