

Dear Members of the Advisory Group, and licensing committee,

My name is Paul Bacon, and I am currently engaged by Sunset Collective as DPS/Site Manager For Sunset Festival 2014.

I have previously and successfully managed several events of this size and nature including several larger events.

I attended Sunset Festival 2013 as a guest, and enjoyed the festival very much. Clear to see was the potential for the event to grow into a larger and better organised event – this being highlighted by the peaceful and relaxed atmosphere on site during the event.

Making the transition from a TEN license to a full premises license is a big step, both in terms of logistics and co-ordination, as well as massive increase in responsibility as it relates to public safety and our duty of care to patrons/crew of the event.

It is a vital step in Sunset Festivals life as an organisation to be able to grow and gain experience and credibility and as such, the first application for a full license is a major step. It is understood that the event is under scrutiny and every detail is being scrupulously analysed to further the ability of the organisers to uphold their duty of care.

I am pleased to say that in my experience so far, the organisers have responded to my recommendations and have engaged with professional bodies within the industry which I have a pre-existing professional working relationship with – Pat for example at PPE , who I have an event history with going back to 2007, with 7 events over 7 years, all licensing objectives being successfully upheld with no incidences of crime or disorder.

These type of events have a well deserved reputation for being peaceful, with the demographic attending these events well known for peaceful and progressive attitudes.

The organisers have taken to the task of planning the event admirably, quickly addressing any shortfalls observed in their management plan as soon as they have been recognised or highlighted.

I think the license should be granted and am confident in their ability to uphold the licensing terms – obviously a fledgling organisation such as Sunset has a lot to learn, but this organisation has displayed a very high degree of motivation and displayed a desire to learn and better themselves through close working relationships with every sector of the industry – including the SAG who have been invaluable in providing advice to enable a better management plan to be produced.

The event plan clearly shows the desire on the part of the organisers to uphold and promote all aspects of the HSWPA 1974.