

Event Noise Management Plan for AudioFarm Festival - Sep 1st to 5th 2022 at Hopton Court, Shropshire

For AudioFarm Ltd

AudioFarm Festival 2022 – Noise Management Plan Rev.01

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Document Control

Revision Author Position Date Amendments

01 G Edwards Consultant 19/3/21 Detailed Noise contour model

and maximum
decibel level at
source figures to
be produced by
F1 Acoustics
and compiled
once exact
speaker
specifications
are confirmed

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Introduction

Appointment

GJE AVS has been appointed by AudioFarm Ltd to provide a Noise Management Plan for AudioFarm Festival 2021, to be held at Hopton Court, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster, DY14 0EF

This Noise Management Plan (NMP) contains details of the noise management strategies that will be put in place by GJE AVS on behalf of AudioFarm Ltd. Live Event Monitoring will be done by a separate Noise Measurement contractor who will ensure that the sections of the premises licence relating to noise are addressed and implemented at all times during the event.

About GJ Edwards AV Services

GJE AVS are specialists in event and festival sound control and PA System deployment and have provided services for festivals including Green Man, Boomtown, Gotwood, Leeds, and Festival No. 6. We have been operating since 2016 and have a combined experience of over 13 years providing high quality sound control services. All of our Consultants are Members of the Institute of Acoustics.

Monitoring Equipment

The Contractor responsible for completing the live monitoring of the event will use integrating sound level meters capable of measuring in third-octave bands and conforming to the Class 1 specification contained in BS EN 61672-1:2013 for all offsite measurements, with all sound level meters used for on-site monitoring, if required by conditions within the Premises Licence, conforming to the Class 2 specification or better. These sound level meters will be within a two-year period of calibration traceable to national standards. All sound level meters will be checked for calibration with an equivalent or more accurate Class of acoustic calibrator, which is within a two-year period of calibration traceable to national standards, before and after each monitoring session.

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Site and Noise Sources



This is the proposed site layout with north being vertical, including every sound source labelled with an arrow to indicate direction of speaker alignment.

- Item 4 will be small scale PA system for no more than 300 capacity, used for background, low impact music finishing at 11pm on Thursday and Sunday and until 1am on the Friday and Saturday nights.
- Item 5 will be a 500 capacity Live Band Stage with cardioid speaker arrangement allowing full control of the sound. Music starting at 14:00 Thursday then 12:00 through the weekend and finishing at 23:00 Thursday and Sunday and until 01:00 Friday and Saturday nights.
- Items 6 and 7 will be the main venues with live and electronic acts, 6 which is the Home of the Drum Stage, having a system designed for 500 capacity and 7 the Main stage, designed for 750 capacity. Each of these main venues will have cardioid subwoofer arrays and Fully Cardioid high frequency speakers to

Thursday then 12:00 through the weekend and finishing at 23:00 Thursday and Sunday and until 01:00 Friday and Saturday nights.

Noise Risks & Mitigation

- Music

Music will be played within the licensed hours only.

We will endeavor to minimize any noise becoming a nuisance to local residents by adhering to the mitigation techniques described in this document.

- Caterers

We have instructed all caterers that they cannot bring their own sound systems and we don't see anything else with them that could cause an issue with Noise levels.

- Overnight campers

Customers in campervans will be instructed that they cannot play their sound systems, and this will be especially enforced outside of licensed hours.

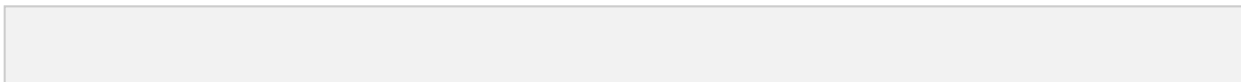
- Vehicles

All customers will be instructed that they need to arrive at the festival no later than 10pm and will be given information before the event via email and social media not to loiter in the village of Hopton Wafers, and to follow signs to not drive through the village.

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Pre-Event Liaison procedure with local Residents



All Noise sensitive properties within a 2 mile radius of the venue will have had instructions posted detailing how local residents can make contact if they have issues with noise coming from the festival within a letter explaining more about AudioFarm Festival and inviting them to an open day for local residents prior to the event, with food and refreshments where the organizers will be on hand to answer any queries or concerns they may have. We will also do another letter drop a few days before the event to the residents to make sure they still have the information needed to contact the Noise Management Team.

The second letter will solely be providing information about the sound complaints procedure. An example of the enclosed information will read as follows:

‘Dear Resident,

Audio Farm Festival which is to be held at Hopton Court from Thursday 1st September until Monday 5th September 2022. Audio Farm ltd have employed an independent Noise Monitoring Company, if you have issues with the sound coming from the festival you can contact them on 07XXXXXXX. They and the Audio Farm team will endeavor to help you as much as possible.

Yours Sincerely,

Audio Farm Ltd Management.’

Noise Mitigation - While Live within license hours and during pre-sound check

Initial Action

At time of main soundcheck approx. 12.00 hours on Thursday 1st September, SPL readings will be taken outside the noise sensitive properties in different directions nearest to the venue. Phone or radio communication will be made to the relevant sound engineer whose sound system levels will affect these readings. This will enable adjustments to get the desired output level that will achieve minimal disturbance.

The peak reading outside residential properties shall not exceed the agreed LAeq over a 15-minute period (level to be agreed between Audio Farm Ltd and Shropshire council once new background survey is completed) in either of the 63Hz or 125Hz octave band, over a 15-minute period at the boundary of any noise sensitive premises, at any time between the hours of 09:00 - 23:00. Music Noise Level (MNL) should not exceed the background noise level by more than 15dB(A), when measured over any 15-minute period, during both the sound checks, and the event. This level applies between 09:00 and 23:00. Measurements will be taken 1 metre from the façade of any noise sensitive premises.

Between the hours of 23:00 - 09.00 music should not be audible within noise sensitive premises, with windows open in a typical manner for ventilation. Taking into account variations in all weather conditions from those of when the base level readings were taken.

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Continuous Monitoring

Readings will be taken and recorded at the location agreed between Audio Farm Ltd and Shropshire council likely the same location as where the background noise

survey was taken, unless more locations are needed to be recorded regularly due to complaints or further evaluation of the noise level risks during the event.

These readings will be logged in a similar format to the document named 'DB reading log' attached to email. Adjustments to sound levels will be made if needed to assure the above-mentioned levels are not exceeded.

Sound level readings at each music stage will be logged every hour before 11pm and every 30mins after and will be taken at the mixing desk or a central position and will be compared with the readings taken at noise sensitive properties.

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Noise Contour Model and Maximum decibel Levels at source

Once more detailed information regarding the sound systems being used is obtained, a high-quality noise contour model will be included to show the estimated

decibel levels at properties surrounding the site. It will demonstrate the effect that noise mitigation factors such as sound system placement and arrangement details, sound barrier height and position and other methods of noise cancellation being used. This will be produced by F1 Acoustics Ltd.

Further Noise Mitigation Techniques

- Music will only be Played until 11pm on the Thursday and Sunday evenings and 1am on the Friday and Saturday as discussed with Shropshire Council Licensing Team. This will mitigate any potential for nuisance on the Thursday and Sunday when people generally have work in the morning.
- Positioning of PA Systems will be dramatically different from the last event, this time following suit with Beardy Folk Festival and placing the main stage outside of the walled garden on the large field the other side of the wall. This will ensure minimal noise travelling to the village, as Hopton Court itself will become a sound barrier between the system and the village.
- Specialized Sound Equipment will be used to ensure sound travelling towards Hopton Wafers will be minimized by controlling the polar pattern of the systems.
- Hay Bales will be employed where required.
- Constant communication between sound measurement team and sound systems to allow for immediate adjustment when necessary.

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Complaints Procedure

Any noise complaints will go through to the phone number given to residents in the letter drops. This phone will be manned 24 hours from the start of the license, until

the end of the license, and will be answered by either the Noise Mitigation team or the Site Manager depending on the time. If the complaint is made in person to the venue, then their first point of contact will be to get in touch with the site management team who will then contact the Noise Mitigation Team to help resolve the issue.

All complaints will be logged in a similar format to the document named 'resident noise log', attached to the email. The Noise Mitigation team and Site Managers will have copies of these to use throughout the event.

In the event of a complaint, the Sound Mitigation team will go to the complainant's property and check the readings, as described previously in the 'Sound Mitigation Plan While Live Part 1' and will contact the event Production Manager or Site Manager via radio or mobile phone to make them aware of the complaint. If noise levels are above those described in 'Noise Mitigation Plan While Live Part 1', then the Production Manager and relevant Sound Engineers will be contacted via radio or mobile phone so as sound levels from the systems can be reduced, until DB readings are not above those described in Noise Mitigation Plan.

In the event of a noise complaint outside of licensed hours, then a festival manager will visit the complainant's property if necessary, to find out what the issue is or obtain information over the phone so as it can be dealt with accordingly and log the complaint.

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Audio Farm Festival 2022 - Persons of Responsibility **Whilst Live**

Chain of Responsibility regarding Noise Plan

(This may change prior to the event, so an amended version will be sent if need be)

Site Manager / Director

1a) Tash Kendall - [REDACTED]

Live Production Managers

2a) Matt Lee - [REDACTED]

2b) Daisy Lee - [REDACTED]

Event Coordinators/ Directors

3a) Andrew Taylor - [REDACTED]

3b) Stephen Chesters - [REDACTED]

3c) Matthew Hunt - [REDACTED]

3d) Gareth Edwards - [REDACTED]