

This Report will be made public on 17 January 2023



Report Number **C/22/80**

To: Cabinet
Date: 25th January 2023
Status: Non Key Decision
Responsible Officer: Andy Blaszkwicz – Director Housing & Operations
Cabinet Member: Cllr Jenny Hollingsbee – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communities

SUBJECT: Review of the Events Management Policy

SUMMARY: This report details the review of the Events Management Policy and Procedures (appendix 1) to ensure they are up to date and reflect current practice.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

Cabinet is asked to agree the recommendations set out below because: -

- Folkestone & Hythe District Council has a responsibility to consider requests and to grant or refuse permission for events to be held on Council and/or land under Council control.
- The new revised Event Management Policy includes guidance on Prevent which the Council has a duty to include in its policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To receive and note report C/22/80.
2. To agree the revised Events Management Policy and allow it to be published on the Council website.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Events Management Policy and Procedures were previously approved by Cabinet on the 18th July 2018.
- 1.2 The documents were due for review in 2023, however there have been a number of changes and the documents needed streamlining. A revised document has now been produced for approval.

2. CHANGES TO THE POLICY

- 2.1 The policy and procedures required updating as some processes had changed since the last revision in 2018. The documents were wordy and not easy to follow, so action has been taken to streamline the documents into one policy.
- 2.2 The Government has also issued Prevent Duty guidance which all local authorities have an obligation to comply with. Kent County Council have provided guidance on this to ensure that all local authorities have a consistent approach. The Prevent Duty guidance is to ensure that publicly owned venues and resources do not provide a platform for extremists and are not used to disseminate extremist views. A new section has been included in the Policy for this. KCC provided training to relevant officers on the guidance in order for them to have a better understanding.

3. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 3.1 The perceived risk to the Council is shown below:

Perceived risk	Seriousness	Likelihood	Preventative action
Failure to adopt procedures for managing event applications for the District	Low	Low	Adopt the Event Management Policy

7. LEGAL/FINANCIAL AND OTHER CONTROLS/POLICY MATTERS

7.1 Legal Officer's Comments (NM)

The Policy has been revised to include Prevent Duty guidance. Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 seeks to place a duty on specified authorities (listed in Schedule 6 to the Act) and says it must 'in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.' In complying with the duty all specified authorities, as a starting point, should demonstrate an awareness and understanding of the risk of radicalisation in their area, institution or body.

Specific legal advice may need to be sought in relation to proposed events as and when these arise.

7.2 Finance Officer's Comments (TM)

There are no financial implications relating to this report.

7.3 Diversities and Equalities Implications (GE)

There are no equality and diversity issues directly arising from this report.

7.4 Climate Change Implications (OF)

There are no climate change implications arising from this report.

8. CONTACT OFFICERS AND BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Councillors with any questions arising out of this report should contact the following officer prior to the meeting

Dee Elson, Control Centre & Resilience Lead Specialist

Telephone: 01303 853193

Email: dee.elson@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Event Management Policy and Procedures 2018

Appendix 2: New Event Management Policy