

NOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN

22.02.2024

LDN SCENE



INTRODUCTION

In response to growing concerns regarding noise disturbances and potential risks to staff hearing health, the management and owners from Little LDN who are now operating LDN Scene (formerly known as Bloc), have embarked on a comprehensive initiative to develop and implement a robust noise management plan. With a commitment to fostering a safe, enjoyable, and harmonious environment for staff, patrons, and neighboring communities, this plan outlines proactive measures aimed at mitigating noise nuisances and safeguarding the well-being of all stakeholders.

Cosmic Electronics has been asked to carry out the sound installation and to instigate this plan to prevent previous grievances associated with the previous business at this premises.

Our 50 years of experience along with the new highly motivated owners will ensure this new cultural art space will bring prosperity and culture to this area with no further impact to the long standing residents.



COMMITMENT

This report serves as a guiding framework for addressing noise concerns within the venue, LDN Scene, and outlines a series of strategies and interventions designed to minimise noise disturbances, comply with regulatory requirements, and promote responsible noise management practices. The management and owners are keenly aware of the importance of proactive measures in addressing noise issues and are committed to ensuring that this new plan is carried out effectively to prevent any nuisances and protect the interests of all parties involved.

The management and owners recognise the importance of proactive and transparent communication in addressing noise concerns and fostering positive relationships with neighboring communities. As such, they are dedicated to implementing the recommendations outlined in this report and working collaboratively with staff, patrons, performers, and local authorities to create a safer, more enjoyable, and sustainable entertainment environment for all.

KEY OBJECTIVES

- Minimise noise disturbances within the venue to enhance the overall experience for patrons and staff.
- Protect staff hearing health by implementing measures to reduce exposure to high noise levels.
- Ensure compliance with regulatory requirements, including the Noise at Work Regulations, to avoid potential legal and financial liabilities.
- Foster positive relationships with neighboring communities through proactive communication and responsible noise management practices

APPROACH

The development of this noise management plan involved a comprehensive assessment of existing noise levels, identification of areas of concern, and collaboration with industry experts to implement effective solutions. By combining engineering controls, administrative measures, and staff training initiatives, LDN Scene/ aims to create a balanced approach to noise management that prioritizes the well-being of all stakeholders while maintaining the vibrancy and energy of its entertainment offerings.

CONCLUSION

With a commitment to proactive measures and responsible stewardship, Little LDN is poised to establish itself as a responsible operator. By implementing the recommendations outlined in this report and fostering a culture of safety, awareness, and collaboration, LDN Scene seeks to create an environment where everyone can enjoy the excitement of live entertainment without unnecessary disruptions or risks to health or nuisances to residents.



METHOD

1.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

- Conduct a thorough risk assessment to identify areas within the venue where staff may be exposed to high noise levels from the sound system.
- Utilize noise monitoring equipment to measure noise levels in different areas of the venue during peak times and events with amplified music.
- Consider factors such as the duration of exposure, the intensity of noise, and the proximity of staff to sound sources when assessing risk.
- Collaborate with health and safety professionals to ensure that the risk assessment is comprehensive and accurately identifies areas of concern.

1.1 NOISE EXPOSURE MONITORING

- Implement a regular schedule for noise exposure monitoring using sound level meters placed strategically throughout the venue and at key external positions whilst setting levels.
- Record and analyze noise level data to identify trends, hotspots, and areas of potential risk for staff exposure.
- Use the data collected to assess compliance with regulatory noise limits and internal noise management policies.
- Provide training to staff responsible for noise monitoring to ensure accurate and consistent data collection.

1.2 ENGINEERING CONTROLS

- Explore engineering solutions to reduce noise at the source, such as positioning of speakers or installing sound barriers around speakers.
- Consider the use of directional speakers and acoustical treatments to direct sound towards desired areas and minimize sound leakage.
- Install a non-accessible limiter within the sound system to enforce predetermined maximum noise levels, preventing excessive noise exposure for staff and patrons.
- Work with acoustic engineers or consultants to optimize the layout and design of the sound system for maximum effectiveness in controlling noise levels.

1.3 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS

- Implement controls to limit staff exposure to high noise levels, such as job rotation, scheduling breaks in quieter areas, or providing earplugs.
- Develop clear policies and procedures for staff to follow in managing noise levels, including guidelines for adjusting audio equipment and responding to noise complaints.

- Provide training to staff on the risks of noise exposure and the importance of adhering to noise management protocols, emphasizing their role in protecting their own hearing health.

1.4 HEARING PROTECTION

- Provide suitable hearing protection, such as earplugs to staff working in areas where noise levels exceed recommended limits.
- Ensure that hearing protection devices are properly fitted and comfortable for staff to wear for extended periods.
- Educate staff on the correct use of hearing protection, including how to properly insert, remove, and care for earplugs.
- Encourage staff to use hearing protection consistently and provide reminders about the importance of protecting their hearing health.

1.5 HEALTH OBSERVATION

- Implement a health observation program to monitor the hearing health of staff exposed to high noise levels.
- Offer regular hearing tests to detect early signs of hearing loss and provide support and guidance to affected staff.
- Maintain records of staff hearing test results and use this data to track changes in hearing health over time.
- Provide resources and support to staff with hearing loss, including access to hearing aids or assistive listening devices as needed.

1.6 TRAINING AND AWARENESS

- Provide comprehensive training to staff on the risks of noise exposure and the importance of adhering to noise management protocols.
- Include information on the symptoms of noise-induced hearing loss and strategies for preventing hearing damage in staff training programs.
- Foster a culture of safety and awareness among staff, encouraging them to actively participate in noise management efforts and report any concerns or issues promptly.
- Train staff on the importance of smoothly managing the music reduction process and closing procedures.
- Designate specific roles to ensure a coordinated effort among staff members during this period, including monitoring audio levels, communicating with patrons, and facilitating a safe exit.
- Utilize visual cues, such as lighting changes, to complement the auditory signals and facilitate a gradual winding down of the event.
- Provide clear and consistent communication to staff, patrons, and performers regarding the schedule for reducing audio levels and the expected timeline for closing the venue.

1.7 COLLABORATION WITH SECURITY PERSONNEL

- Collaborate closely with security personnel to ensure a coordinated approach to noise management and crowd control during events.
- Communicate the schedule for reducing audio levels before closing time to security staff, enabling them to anticipate potential crowd reactions and respond accordingly.

- Train security personnel on the importance of maintaining a calm and orderly environment during the gradual reduction of audio levels, minimizing the risk of disturbances or conflicts.

1.8 AUDIO REDUCTION AND CLOSING PROTOCOL

- Implement a standard operating procedure for reducing music levels in all areas of the venue 30 minutes before closing time.
- Gradually decrease the volume over a reasonable time frame to signal the impending end of the event, providing patrons with ample time to prepare for departure.
- Coordinate with security personnel to ensure a smooth transition during the gradual music reduction phase, minimizing disruptions and maintaining a safe and controlled environment.

1.9 SERVICING

- Conduct regular audits and compliance checks to verify that the limiter is functioning correctly and that noise levels remain within acceptable limits.
- Document the results of audits and any corrective actions taken to address deviations from agreed-upon audio levels, ensuring transparency and accountability in noise management efforts.

2.0 COMMUNICATION

- Communicate the presence and purpose of the limiter to relevant stakeholders, including performers, event organizers, and staff, to ensure their understanding and cooperation.
- Emphasize the importance of adhering to agreed-upon audio levels and the role of the limiter in supporting noise management efforts, fostering a collaborative approach to maintaining a safe and enjoyable environment for all.

2.1 SOUNDPROOFING AND INSULATION

- Conduct a comprehensive assessment of the venue to identify areas where soundproofing and insulation improvements are needed, such as walls, ceilings, floors, and doors.
- Prioritize areas with the highest levels of sound leakage or where noise complaints have been received from neighboring properties.
- Work with qualified contractors or acoustic engineers to design and implement targeted soundproofing solutions tailored to the specific needs of each area.

2.2 ACOUSTIC TREATMENT

- Select appropriate acoustic materials and treatments based on factors such as noise frequency, absorption coefficients, and aesthetic considerations.
- Install sound-absorbing materials, such as acoustic panels, baffles, drapes, and carpets, to reduce reverberation and minimize sound transmission between spaces.
- Consider the use of resilient sound isolation techniques, such as floating floors, decoupled walls, and acoustic seals, to prevent structure-borne noise transfer.
- Ensure that soundproofing and insulation materials meet relevant industry standards and regulations for fire safety, durability, and acoustic performance.

- Work closely with contractors to ensure proper installation of soundproofing treatments, paying attention to details such as sealing gaps, caulking joints, and minimising flanking paths for sound transmission.

2.3 CONTINUOUS MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- Regular monitoring of noise levels in treated areas to assess the effectiveness of soundproofing and insulation measures.
- Use objective measurements, such as sound level meter readings and acoustic modeling software, to quantify improvements in noise reduction and identify any areas that may require further attention.

2.4 FEEDBACK AND ADAPTATION

- Solicit feedback from staff, performers, and patrons regarding the impact of soundproofing and insulation measures on their experience within the venue.
- Use feedback to make adjustments and refinements to soundproofing treatments, ensuring that they align with the needs and preferences of stakeholders while maintaining compliance with noise regulations.

2.5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND TRANSPARENCY

- Communicate with neighboring properties and local residents to inform them of soundproofing and insulation efforts being undertaken by the venue.
- Provide transparency regarding the timeline, scope, and expected outcomes of soundproofing projects, addressing any concerns or inquiries raised by the community.

2.6 INVESTMENT IN LONG TERM SOLUTIONS

- Allocate resources for ongoing maintenance and upkeep of soundproofing and insulation treatments to ensure their continued effectiveness over time.
- Consider investing in long-term solutions, such as permanent structural upgrades or building renovations, to address persistent noise issues and enhance the overall acoustic performance of the venue.



KEY INFORMATION

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