

Our Ref: LIC790433216

Date: 25/01/2026

**Customer details:**

Title	First name	Surname	Phone number	Mobile number	Email address

Address:

Enter the postcode or street name	Please select the address	Flat	House number	Street	Town	County	Postcode

Name of premises: Victoria Park**Location:**

Enter the postcode or street name	Please select the address	Flat	House number	Street	Town	County	Postcode
LE1 7RY	Lodge 2 Victoria Park London Road, Leicester	Lodge 2	Victoria Park	London Road	Leicester	Leicester City	LE1 7RY

Application No. (If known): 'Leicester Balloon Festival'**Please tick one or more of the licensing objectives that your representation relates to:**

Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Public Safety, Prevention of Public Nuisance, Protection of Children From Harm

Please summarise your concerns about this application: Leicester City Council (LCC) used to allow hot air balloons to take off from some parks, but they distracted drivers and one balloon

landed on a main road, which had to be closed while it was recovered.

A previous balloon event on Victoria Park, smaller than the one now proposed, resulted in balloons clipping trees and only just missing the houses surrounding the park. There is a obvious danger to the public and property.

LCC bye-laws prohibit private balloons taking off from its parks, not even allowing tethered advertising balloons on air-space safety grounds. So this event will be in breach of all existing norms.

I am opposed to our local park, an the community field, being fenced off for another long period to facilitate the third large commercial event in three consecutive years. The proposal for fireworks displays to take place right next to the eco-area each night during peak nesting season.

In addition, the event is proposed to go on until 10:30pm each night, which is way beyond a reasonable time for a large scale event with the subsequent noise and potential hooliganism of the time taken to evacuate the area by the attendees who will have been drinking.

The park is a tremendous open space, but is for public enjoyment in peak summer months, they should not to be excluded by another commercial venture for weeks during erection and breakdown .

Please give further details of WHY you believe this application will have an adverse effect on the licensing objectives : I think the event will impact negatively on all the licensing objectives for the reasons given above. Public and road safety is obviously at risk. The fencing off of the park areas is always a public nuisance as is the risk of disorder with viable aircraft cheek by jowl with alcohol stalls. Children trying to sleep and enjoy the green space will also be harmed by the noise and loss of amenity.

Are there any changes that could be made to the application that would reduce or remove your concerns?: No

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Our Ref: LIC790425776

Date: 25/01/2026



Customer details:

Title	First name	Surname	Phone number	Mobile number	Email address

Address:

Enter the postcode or street name	Please select the address	Flat	House number	Street	Town	County	Postcode

Name of premises: Victoria Park

Location:

Enter the postcode or street name	Please select the address	Flat	House number	Street	Town	County	Postcode
Victoria Park Road	Street Record Cycleway Mayors Walk To Victoria Park Road, Leicester		Street Record	Cycleway Mayors Walk To Victoria Park Road	Leicester	Leicester	City

Application No. (If known): N/K

Please tick one or more of the licensing objectives that your representation relates to:
Public Safety

Please summarise your concerns about this application: There is a proposed Hot air Balloon festival on the weekend 19th- 21st June .

There are safety concerns as the park is in a residential area with roads and houses nearby . Also the public park will again be cordoned off for days and this will attract traffic again . We already have several events similar to this . The Balloon festival is also being held in Market Harborough which is close to this area .

Please give further details of WHY you believe this application will have an adverse effect on the licensing objectives : Balloons have been banned at parks in the past due to safety concerns, houses have damaged balloons and roads have been blocked by balloons coming down . There are other venues where this event could be held safely.

Are there any changes that could be made to the application that would reduce or remove your concerns?: No

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Amy Day

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 January 2026 17:34
To: Licensing
Subject: Proposed balloon festival Victoria Park, Clarendon Park

I would like to lodge an objection to this event. The reasons are as follows:

Balloon launching from Victoria Park has been banned in the past because of danger from balloons catching on trees or surrounding domestic housing. The trees are now taller, presenting greater risk. A similar event in Market Harborough takes place on the showground, an open area not close to housing or other buildings.

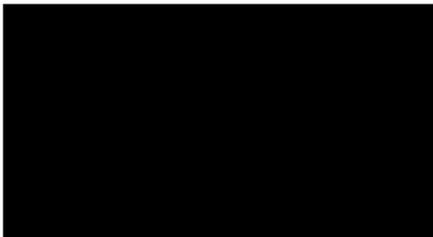
The proposed end time of 10.30 is later than events are usually allowed.

Events like these, where alcohol and food is served, invariably cause noise and litter nuisance for the neighbourhood.

The event would bring a large amount of additional traffic into an area where parking is difficult for residents. Even where parking is provided elsewhere, for example at a park and ride, past experience shows that people will try to park close to the venue.

It would make more sense to hold the event at the racecourse if they are willing to host it

Many thanks



Amy Day

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 January 2026 16:56
To: Licensing
Subject: Victoria Park - balloon festival licence application

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Hi,

I oppose the idea of a license being given to [Showtime Events Group Ltd](#) which has applied for a premises licence to run a **3-day 'Leicester Balloon Festival'** event on **Victoria Park** for up to **9,999 people** at any one time, on **Friday 19th to Sunday 21st June** this year then for **one weekend every June in subsequent years**.

I agree with the objections on safety grounds put forward by the Friends of Clarendon Park, as follows: Leicester City Council (LCC) used to allow hot air balloons to take off from some parks, but they distracted drivers and one balloon landed on a main road, which had to be closed while it was recovered. There was also a balloon event on Victoria Park, smaller than the one now proposed, that resulted in balloons clipping trees and only just missing the houses surrounding the park.

Subsequently, LCC bye-laws prohibited private balloons taking off from its parks, including tethered advertising balloons on air-space safety grounds.

We also opposed to our local park, and in particular the community field, being fenced off for another long period to facilitate the third large commercial event in three consecutive years, and dismayed by the proposal for fireworks displays to take place right next to the eco-area each night during peak nesting season.

In addition, the event is proposed to go on until 10:30pm each night, which is 2.5 hours later than the standard 8:00pm finish previously agreed (other than for exceptional, one-off events).

Thank you

[REDACTED]

Our Ref: LIC790434642

Date: 25/01/2026



Customer details:

Title	First name	Surname	Phone number	Mobile number	Email address

Address:

Enter the postcode or street name	Please select the address	Flat	House number	Street	Town	County	Postcode

Name of premises: Victoria Park Balloon Festival

Location:

Enter the postcode or street name	Please select the address	Flat	House number	Street	Town	County	Postcode
Victoria Park	Pavillion Restaurant Victoria Park London Road, Leicester	Pavillion Restaurant	Victoria Park	London Road	Leicester	Leicester City	LE1 7RY

Application No. (If known):

Please tick one or more of the licensing objectives that your representation relates to:
Public Safety

Please summarise your concerns about this application: I want to object to this festival. It is too dangerous in a small urban park with too many buildings and major roads near by.

Please give further details of WHY you believe this application will have an adverse effect

on the licensing objectives : See above.

Are there any changes that could be made to the application that would reduce or remove your concerns?: No

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Amy Day

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 January 2026 17:38
To: Licensing
Subject: Balloon festival, Victoria Park - OBJECTION

Application for an annual premises licence for a Balloon Festival on Victoria Park by Showtime Events Group Ltd

I OBJECT to this application, which I believe does not prevent public nuisance and compromises public safety.

- Once again there has been no opportunity for local people, or their representatives, to have involvement before this application. There is limited information in this application with which to make an informed judgement of some issues, and no opportunity to ask questions
- This would be a large event, covering most of the park – including the community field which was established some years ago as an area for informal use, to be kept clear of formal sports and events to ensure space for local users. There is no other park for the populations in dense housing around the park who have limited outdoor space. While those with cars may choose to go to other parks, those on lower incomes or less mobility may not have that choice, so it discriminates. It doesn't say how long the area will be affected, but it's likely to be at least a week including build etc. Community field does not have the infrastructure of the main area used for events, and is further away from vehicle entry to the park increasing risk of conflict with pedestrians and dogs – an issue we saw last year with a smaller event using this area.
- Fencing most of the park excludes (even Kasabian didn't use this much!) and has potential for public safety issues if groups are crowded together – e.g. using the cricket field for picnics or children's play when others are playing cricket, or families with young children playing near to the cycle routes rather than the community field next to the play area. I'm assuming fencing off the play area itself wouldn't be allowed.

Mitigation – reduce the area used, do not include the community field.

- The community field is close to the wildlife area and fireworks at this time of year (nesting season) would be disruptive to wildlife as well as local residents. There are many more modern ways to similar effects with much less disturbance to wildlife or nuisance to public.

Mitigation – use quieter alternatives to fireworks and move away from wildlife area or eliminate.

- There is a large fun fair shown (these seem to be getting louder causing nuisance), and a stage, but little information about noise levels or control. Events with several noise sources have been shown to cause more nuisance than single noise source, even at the same decibel levels. Arena events may have other noisy activities and use of vehicles, which are totally unacceptable on grass that is used for many activities over the summer and football matches over winter. A truck stunt show years ago caused noise nuisance and damage to the park and considered a 'never again' activity. Loud PA systems giving out information and music can be particularly disturbing and carry a long way. But there are no details about noise levels or control from which to judge, and non-music noise can be particularly difficult to control.

Mitigation- with a 3 day event music, PA, funfair etc needs to be inaudible in people's homes.

- The event is for 3 days with late hours on every day. This is much too long and late for an event of this size. There is a cumulative effect on nuisance.
Using Friday in June will affect nearby St Crispins school – which includes young people of public exam age.
Sundays affect local churches, St James the Greater and Quaker meeting house are very close
Late hours on Sunday during school terms affect children who have to go to school next day.

Mitigation – reduce to a one day event - preferably Saturday - and reduce final hours to 8pm which is the accepted finish time for events such as Carnival and Pride.

- An annual licence is not acceptable for any large multi-day event. Such licences should be decided each time, with reference to the cumulative effect of events or particular circumstances on the park that year. An annual licence is particularly unsuitable when the event has not been tried here before.

Mitigation – none, this should be a one-off licence if approved.

- Hot-air balloons drifting across the sky can be a magical spectacle that many, including myself, enjoy. However there is precedent of use of Victoria Park for balloon lift-off that is not favourable. And no I'm not talking of the infamous balloon riot of the 19th century! Early this century there was a period where balloons were allowed to take -off from City parks. It turned out to be a health and safety nightmare and they were soon banned. Obviously some of the issues on the ground can be overcome with an organised and fenced event, but there are inherent problems here. Victoria Park is open and at a high point and known to be windy even in the summer. Balloons struggled to get upright without being blown over in the process. And, more importantly, they didn't rise directly upwards but were blown at sometimes alarmingly low levels, clipping trees and house owners fearing for their chimneys. I remember one resident in a St Leonards Court upper flat seeing a balloon fly past at eye-level. Wind direction can be quite variable in summer, and there are a number of taller buildings and antennae close to the park – more than there were 25 years ago. I have looked at other balloon events in UK, and cannot find any in a similar location. Most are on county showgrounds with fields all around, or beyond edge of town or city on country house parkland. The nearest to here is at Market Harborough showground (appears to be run by same company as this application) – with the only dense housing or building nearby being Gartree prison. Even so, looking at reviews, there are frequent comments that there were few balloons, or none took off due to weather, and they thought it poor value just for a fair. So controlling safety sufficiently may severely limit balloon lift-off here and cause disappointment. The proposed area for balloons is the community field. This is at the lower end of the park and often wet due to underground streams and run off. Balloons will require large vehicles to drive on the area causing damage affecting use for the whole summer if weather is wet - and it is a long way from the vehicle entry onto the park.

Mitigation – the balloon area could be moved, but I don't believe this park is suitable for balloon take-off. Tethered balloons might be more possible.

Finally, cannot assess the safety and nuisance impacts of traffic and parking for this event, because there is insufficient information. Better controls over large music events have been happening in recent years – but there will be a different pattern to this event with more vehicles coming and going, which could be more difficult to control.

Diversions of buses and reduced parking for residents would not be tolerable over 3 days, especially with late finishes making it difficult for people to return home after the event if they want to avoid.

Amy Day

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 January 2026 17:31
To: Licensing
Subject: Balloon festival: objections

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- This is a personal email address.
- This is their first email to you.

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Dear Sir/Madam,

As much as we love seeing hot air balloons, we are opposed to this event taking place on Victoria Park. Leicester City Council (LCC) used to allow hot air balloons to take off from some parks, but they distracted drivers and one balloon landed on a main road, which had to be closed while it was recovered. There was also a balloon event on Victoria Park, smaller than the one now proposed, that resulted in balloons clipping trees and only just missing the houses surrounding the park.

Subsequently, LCC bye-laws prohibited private balloons taking off from its parks, not even allowing tethered advertising balloons on air-space safety grounds. We also opposed to our local park, and in particular the community field, being fenced off for another long period to facilitate the third large commercial event in three consecutive years, and dismayed by the proposal for fireworks displays to take place right next to the eco-area each night during peak nesting season. In addition, the event is proposed to go on until 10:30pm each night, which is 2.5 hours later than the standard 8:00pm finish previously agreed (other than for exceptional, one-off events). The same company runs a balloon festival at Market Harborough showground, which is a completely different location, outside the urban area with fields adjoining and no tall buildings nearby

Yours

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

Our Ref: LIC790395801

Date: 25/01/2026



Customer details:

Title	First name	Surname	Phone number	Mobile number	Email address
[REDACTED]					

Address:

Enter the postcode or street name	Please select the address	Flat	House number	Street	Town	County	Postcode
[REDACTED]							

Name of premises: 3-day 'Leicester Balloon Festival' event on Victoria Park

Location:

Enter the postcode or street name	Please select the address	Flat	House number	Street	Town	County	Postcode
LE1 7RY	Pavillion Restaurant Victoria Park London Road, Leicester	Pavillion Restaurant	Victoria Park	London Road	Leicester	Leicester City	LE1 7RY

Application No. (If known):

Please tick one or more of the licensing objectives that your representation relates to:
Public Safety, Prevention of Public Nuisance

- Please summarise your concerns about this application:**
- 1 Too many commercial events in the public park
 - 2 Nuisance in a public space as it will be closed off
 - 3 Risk of damage to buildings & trees & injury to people on the roads
 - 4 Even more noise and disturbance to wildlife

Please give further details of WHY you believe this application will have an adverse effect on the licensing objectives : 1 Public parks are for public events not private paid events
2 Balloons will damage trees and be a nuisance to cars and local area
3 Park animals need to be left in peace both day and night

Are there any changes that could be made to the application that would reduce or remove your concerns?: No

:

Amy Day

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 January 2026 21:20
To: Licensing
Cc: Cllr Patrick Kitterick; Cllr Liz Sahu; Cllr Mick Gregg
Subject: Leicester Balloon Festival

Hi Licensing,

On behalf of Friends of Clarendon Park I would like to **OBJECT** to Showtime Events Group Ltd application **180723** for a premises licence to run a **3-day 'Leicester Balloon Festival'** event on **Victoria Park** for up to **9,999 people** at any one time, on **Friday 19th to Sunday 21st June** this year then for **one weekend every June in subsequent years**. This objection is on the grounds of:

- public safety
- the prevention of public nuisance

As much as we enjoy seeing hot air balloons, we are opposed to this event taking place on Victoria Park. Leicester City Council (LCC) used to allow private hot air balloons to take off from some parks, but they distracted drivers and one balloon landed on a main road, which had to be closed while it was recovered. Some years ago, a balloon event that was smaller than the one now proposed was held on Victoria Park, resulting in balloons clipping trees and only just missing the houses surrounding the park. Subsequently, LCC bye-laws prohibited private balloons taking off from its parks, not even allowing tethered advertising balloons on air-space safety grounds.

We are also opposed to our local park, and in particular the community field, being fenced off for yet another long period to facilitate the third large commercial event in three consecutive years, and dismayed by the proposal for fireworks displays to take place right next to the eco-area each night during peak nesting season. In addition, the event is proposed to go on until 10:30pm each night, which is 2.5 hours later than the standard 8:00pm finish previously agreed (other than for exceptional, one-off events) and will inevitably cause noise nuisance to local residents.

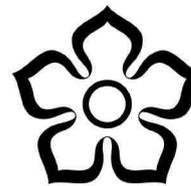
The same company runs a balloon festival at Market Harborough showground, which is a completely different and much more appropriate location, outside the urban area with fields adjoining and without nearby tall buildings, such as St Leonards Court, the Charles Wilson, Attenborough and Engineering buildings at University of Leicester plus the multiple tall buildings at the Freeman's Common Campus.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

Our Ref: LIC790869367

Date: 26/01/2026



Leicester
City Council

Customer details:

Title	First name	Surname	Phone number	Mobile number	Email address

Address:

Enter the postcode or street name	Please select the address	Flat	House number	Street	Town	County	Postcode

Name of premises: Victoria Park Leicester

Location:

Enter the postcode or street name	Please select the address	The address is not listed	Flat	House number	Street	Town	County	Postcode
Victoria Park Road/ London Road/Welford Road		The address is not listed		not listed	Victoria Park Road/ London Road	Leicester	n/a	LE2 3EA

Application No. (If known):

Please tick one or more of the licensing objectives that your representation relates to:

Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Public Safety, Prevention of Public Nuisance

Please summarise your concerns about this application: Risk of low flying balloons, coming down on main roads, of greater concern risk to Royal Infirmary, Leicester Prison and Leicester University apart from local residential and commercial properties.

Massive public nuisance from music and associated noise including fireworks up to 22.30, totally unacceptable during breeding season in nature area.

Please give further details of WHY you believe this application will have an adverse effect on the licensing objectives : A Balloon festival was held at Knighton Park for one or two years sometime between 2000 and 2007. The ground ropes were hazard, dragging across the field during lift-off.

Are there any changes that could be made to the application that would reduce or remove your concerns?: No

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Amy Day

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 January 2026 17:22
To: Licensing
Subject: Balloon event

Hello,

I wish to object on the grounds of Public Safety.

To have this event in a highly populated inner city location cannot be wise.

Safety has to be the first priority.

Where can they land in the event of an emergency?

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Amy Day

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 January 2026 16:58
To: Licensing
Subject: Proposed June balloon weekend on Victoria Park

 **This message needs your attention**

- This is a personal email address.
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Hello

I am writing to object to the proposal to stage a balloon weekend each June on the community field of Victoria Park. Areas of the park are already fenced off for various events throughout the Summer, depriving the local community of its use.

While I expect the organisers will take every care, it does seem like tempting fate to launch balloons in the middle of a busy city with a number of tall buildings, including several right next to the park.

There's also an adjacent wild life area, home to many nesting birds, so hardly an ideal spot for a firework display.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

As a member of Friends of Clarendon Park I would like to **OBJECT** to Showtime Events Group Ltd application **180723** for a premises licence to run a **3-day 'Leicester Balloon Festival'** event on **Victoria Park** for up to **9,999 people** at any one time, on **Friday 19th to Sunday 21st June** this year then for **one weekend every June in subsequent years**. This objection is on the grounds of:

- public safety
- the prevention of public nuisance

As much as we enjoy seeing hot air balloons, we are opposed to this event taking place on Victoria Park. Leicester City Council (LCC) used to allow private hot air balloons to take off from some parks, but they distracted drivers and one balloon landed on a main road, which had to be closed while it was recovered. Some years ago, a balloon event that was smaller than the one now proposed was held on Victoria Park, resulting in balloons clipping trees and only just missing the houses surrounding the park. Subsequently, LCC bye-laws prohibited private balloons taking off from its parks, not even allowing tethered advertising balloons on air-space safety grounds

We are also opposed to our local park, and in particular the community field, being fenced off for yet another long period to facilitate the third large commercial event in three consecutive years, and dismayed by the proposal for fireworks displays to take place right next to the eco-area each night during peak nesting season. In addition, the event is proposed to go on until 10:30pm each night, which is 2.5 hours later than the standard 8:00pm finish previously agreed (other than for exceptional, one-off events) and will inevitably cause noise nuisance to local residents.

The same company runs a balloon festival at Market Harborough showground, which is a completely different and much more appropriate location, outside the urban area with fields adjoining and without nearby tall buildings, such as St Leonards Court, the Charles Wilson, Attenborough and Engineering buildings at University of Leicester plus the multiple tall buildings at the Freeman's Common Campus.

