



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

Freedom of Information Act Publication Scheme	
Protective Marking	Official
Publication Scheme Y/N	Yes
Title	Unlicensed Music Events (Raves) Policy Statement
Version	2.0
Summary	This policy deals with the police response to unlicensed music events (commonly known as 'Raves').
(B)OCU or Unit, Directorate	MO6 – public order and resourcing
Author	
Review Date	December 2023
Date Issued	December 2019

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Branch / OCU:	MO6 – public order and resourcing				
Date created:	18 th December 2019	Review date:	December 2023	Version:	2.0
Author:	Det. Supt John Oldham MO6 / Transformation				

Section A:

Application

This Policy applies with immediate effect.

All police officers and police staff, including the extended police family and those working voluntarily or under contract to the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) or the Commissioner must be aware of, and are required to comply with, all relevant Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) policy and associated procedures.

This Policy applies in particular to officers and staff in the following roles: (This list is not intended to be exhaustive.)

1. Frontline policing (FP) National Chief Officers Council NPCC (on call)
2. Operational Command Unit (OCU) and Basic Command Unit (BCU) Commanders
3. Operational Command Unit (OCU) Commander, Public Order (MO6)
4. OCU Commander, Met Communications Command (MetCC)
5. OCU Commander, Met Intelligence (MO2)
6. Night Duty Superintendents
7. BCU Duty Officers
8. Cluster Detective Inspectors
9. Directorate of Media and Communications (DMC)
10. Public Order CADRE (Advanced Public Order Trained Officers)
11. Public Order Tactical Advisor (POTAC)

This policy deals with Unlicensed Music Events (UME) **defined as**

A 'Rave' is defined under S63-65 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994. As a gathering on land in the open air of 20 or more persons (whether or not trespassers) or 20 or more people who are trespassers in a building at which amplified music is played during the night, which is by reason of its loudness and the duration and time at which it is played, likely to cause serious distress to the inhabitants of the locality.

Policy Principles

The MPS is committed to making London the safest major city in the world. The MPS, together with its partners, will seek to prevent Unlicensed Music Events (UME) from taking place so to improve public safety, preserve order and prevent the commission of offences. Our response to these events is critical to maintaining the confidence of Londoners.

Working with our partners, the MPS:

1. Will use all available intelligence to identify and prevent UMEs from taking place.
2. When a UME is occurring, our intention will be to close the event unless this would increase the risk to the public and good order.
3. When an UME has taken place, the MPS will seek to identify arrest and prosecute organisers.
4. Will inform potential audience groups especially those that can influence young people of the risks associated with attending UMEs. Engagement will include encouraging potential organisers to licence music events with a view to improve public safety and prevent the commission of offences.

This policy establishes clear guidelines and accountability for the management of UME incidents and promotes a corporate standard of prevention activity and response to UMEs.

Purpose and Benefits

UMEs can take place across several days, often attracting thousands of attendees, of which high proportions are young people. Events take place in the open air or buildings. They have no fire safety accreditation, health & safety certification, Security Industry Accreditation staff (SIA), professional medical support or Temporary Event Notices in place. As a result, all persons attending are placed at risk.

Furthermore, UMEs cause public disturbance through noise, anti-social behavior and criminality. They have also resulted in serious public order incidents.

The licensing of public events ensures lawful, safe, accredited venues with adequate security and supervision, to improve public safety.

Associated Documents and Policies

Unlicensed Music Event (Rave) Toolkit

Section B: Equality Impact Assessment

Policies are developed and reviewed using a consultative approach involving relevant internal and external stakeholders. Additionally, developers must consider what action needs to be taken to help overcome or minimise any disadvantages that people who share a protected characteristic will experience in compliance with the Equality Act 2010. The impact of the policy will be monitored to identify any emerging issues, learning and benefits post-delivery of the policy. The table below summarises the outcomes of these steps:

Consultation	
Internal consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Borough Operational Command Unit - SLT • Borough Operational Command Unit – UME Single points of contact • Health and safety risk management team • Finance business partners • Information assurance unit • MO6,MO2 • NPCC (National lead • MO6 Public Order crime team • Met CC - Chief Inspectors • Police Federation, Superintendents Association, Staff associations
External Consultation	Crown Prosecution Service (CPS).
Protected Characteristics (Equality Act 2010)	
Summary of Equality Impact Assessment	All protected characteristics have been considered during the policy development, which was carried out by experts within the Territorial Policing - Capability and Business Support team.
Age	<p>The Unlicensed Music Event (UME) policy affects how the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) responds to the problem of illegal rave events. There is no clear demographic research on groups attending these events; audiences for UMEs vary on an event by event basis. However, it is recognised that people of a young age do attend these events, and therefore the impact on young people has been considered within this policy.</p> <p>There is a safety risk to all of those attending UMEs on account of the issues of unsafe buildings, fire risks through use of generators/abstracted electricity, inadequate safety/security and first aid provision, availability and use of illegal drugs, legal highs and alcohol etc. The young are deemed at particular risk due to such factors/characteristics considered more likely to be present in younger people than in older people e.g. peer pressure, recklessness, a low tolerance of alcohol and naivety.</p> <p>This policy seeks to increase the safety of young people by preventing UMEs taking place. There are a variety of preventative measures in place, including police working with local partner agencies, schools and businesses to</p>

	identify potential UME locations/hotspots.
Deaf/ disability	There is currently no identified impact.
Gender reassignment	There is currently no identified impact.
Pregnancy and Maternity	There is currently no identified impact.
Race	There is currently no identified impact.
Religion or belief	There is currently no identified impact.
Sex	There is currently no identified impact.
Sexual Orientation	There is currently no identified impact.
Other issues for example: Low income groups, single parents, rough sleepers	There is currently no identified impact.
Monitoring	
12 month implementation plan	This policy will be monitored for 12 months with a series of exercises to ensure compliance and capturing any issues or lessons identified.