



Ms Claudia Langmead,
Licensing Lead –
Marlay Park Concerts and Longitude 2024
Festival Republic Dublin, Bord Gais Energy Theatre,
Grand Canal Square, Dublin, D02 PA03

Date: Tuesday, 5 March 2024

Re: Request for the alignment of Marlay Park offsite Music Noise Limits (MNL) with other Dublin Concert Venue limits.

Dear Claudia,

As requested, I have put together a document setting out the reasoning around the alignment of the current offsite Music Noise Level (MNL) limit of 72dB, LAeq,15min at Marlay Park with other concert sites in Dublin where a limiting level of 75dB, LAeq,15min is being successfully used. The sites referenced include Malahide Park, Croke Park, The Aviva Stadium, Collins Barracks, Dublin Castle, The Royal Hospital Kilmainham, Trinity College Dublin Summer Series and many more.

The purpose of the requested increase in offsite MNL to 75dB, LAeq,15min

It would be essential to convey that the request to use a MNL of 75dB, LAeq,15min is to provide us with music headroom during headline acts only. For example, it would be essential to note that most support acts run circa 5dB(A) below the headline act show level so that the headline comes in with presence. Many headline acts can be dynamic and typically have inherent louder and quieter parts to their shows. A MNL limit of 75dB, LAeq,15min offsite at Marlay Park would allow us a headroom to cater for louder tracks in the performance. At a MNL limit of 72dB, LAeq,15min, it can be limiting when dealing with relatively short show high points, typically early in the main act and close to the show end.

If we look at the Front Of House (FOH) levels at Dermot Kennedy at Marlay Park on 24 June 2023, you can see that the support acts were well back (5dB lower), and the loudest part of his show was the third 15-minute interval of the main act, as shown in Figure 1. If we now examine the headline act levels, we can see that the performance was loudest between 21:15 and 21:30

and that all other show parts were quieter. For this show, the offsite limit of 75dB, LAeq,15min would only be availed of during those short intervals during the high points of the Headline Act.

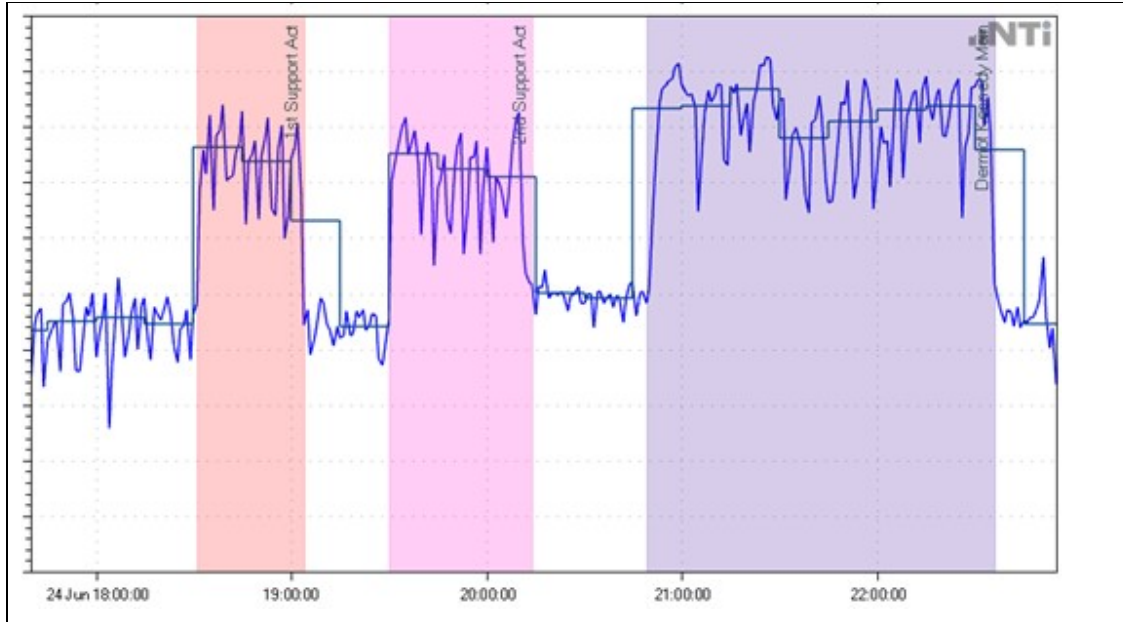


Figure 1: LAeq,dt and LAeq,15min FOH for the two support acts and headline act (Dermot Kennedy) on 24 June 2023.

In summary, we are looking to move to a more commonly used limiting level at other concert sites of 75dB, LAeq,15min offsite at Marlay Park to allow us to cater for the likely dynamics of each show as 72dB, LAeq,15min is currently too restrictive. Apart from alignment with other venues, it would give us the flexibility to cater to dynamic elements of performances and reduce the risk of temporary exceedances offsite. We hope this will be considered in the Licensing Conditions 2024 at Marlay Park to help deal with inherent show variation.

Regards,

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