



Waterford Spraoi 2020 Summary of Safety Statement & Risk Assessment

This Safety Statement is issued in connection with the Waterford Spraoi Festival and Parade, held annually over the August Bank Holiday weekend in Waterford and specifically the 2022 Festival. It will be the thirtieth occasion the festival has been held. The 2022 Spraoi Festival is to be held in the city streets and squares from July 29th. to 31st. inclusive. The festival is a free event aimed primarily at a family audience.

With experience gained from twenty-eight years of staging this event Spraoi anticipate an audience of circa 50,000 people at various locations and at various times throughout the three days. The Festival will be programmed with the intention to avoid crowd congestion at any single performance. The Festival is aimed at a family audience and as such is not involved in the sale or distribution of alcohol.

The majority of acts at the festival are provided to the public free of charge. The acts are programmed with the intention of attracting a family audience. Following selection of the acts Spraoi's management team, event controllers and representatives of the attractions develop plans for the safe presentation of the acts and attractions at a variety of outdoor city centre locations.

Locations chosen to present individual acts and attractions are influenced by a variety of factors, including: nature of attraction, space required for performance, capability of location to accommodate anticipated attendance, adjoining streets and traffic conditions, access and egress points, location of street furniture or other potential obstacles and stewarding requirements of chosen locations. When appropriate, locations chosen are proofed with Gardai, emergency services and relevant stakeholders.

The objective of this planning process is to deliver an entertaining and enjoyable event in safe conditions and surroundings. This process includes liaising with Gardai, Fire Services, staff and management at Waterford Council and voluntary organisations i.e. Order of Malta and Irish Red Cross.

A paramount concern of the organisers in planning and staging this event has been, and continues to be, that all necessary precautions are taken with regard to the safety of all participants, stewards, spectators and non-participants.

The objectives as set out in our Safety Statement and Risk Assessment are:

- To maintain a safe and healthy work-space.
- To ensure safe systems of work and procedures and in doing so protect the staff, crew, participants, non-participants and others who may be affected by the work we do.
- To develop safety awareness among all staff and crew and to encourage individual responsibility for health and safety.
- To encourage full and effective consultation with civic authorities and other stakeholders on health and safety matters.
- To ensure that adequate resources of time, personnel and finance are made available for the effective implementation and maintenance of the objectives and arrangements set out in our Safety Statement and Risk Assessment.
- To review the effectiveness and implementation of the safety procedures following the event and ensure any necessary procedural changes are recorded for implementation in future years.

The detailed arrangements for achieving these objectives are set out in the main body of the Safety Statement and Risk Assessment in the Event Licence application.

The detailed Safety Statement and Risk Assessment will be prepared with reference to event management strategies successfully deployed by Waterford Spraoi in partnership with the relevant authorities at the previous twenty eight Spraoi Festivals.